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Syria blames Israel for Pan Am crash

KUWAIT, Jan. 21, (Reuters): Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas said in remarks published today that Israel blew up a Pan American airliner over Scotland last month by tricking an American soldier into carrying explosives aboard.

Tlas told a Kuwaiti daily that agents of Israel's secret service Mossad offered an American soldier stationed in West Germany \$300,000 to smuggle a suitcase that supposedly carried diamonds into the United States.

The soldier did not know the suitcase was packed with explosives, Tlas said. The airliner crashed shortly after takeoff on Dec. 21 from London's Heathrow airport on a flight from Frankfurt to New York with the loss of 270 lives.

British investigators have established a bomb caused the crash but have not identified who was responsible.

Normal

Tlas said the baggage of American soldiers at Frankfurt airport was not subject to normal security checks. He did not reveal the source of his information but said it was "available to more than one Western intelligence agency."

Tlas said a group of rabbis due to have travelled on the plane cancelled their reservations at the last minute, presumably tipped off by Mossad.

He did not say why Israel would have blown up the plane. The incident closely followed the start of talks between Washington and the PLO, which Israel criticised.

US officials have said Syrian-backed Palestinian groups opposed to the PLO leadership may have been responsible.

Labour law will help create jobs for Kuwaitis

By Hussain Salameh

THE new labour law has been enacted explicitly to create job opportunities for Kuwaitis in the private sector, according to Mohammed Al Shabman, Assistant Under-Secretary for Labour Affairs at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

He added these opportunities would be created by a clause which bans recruitment from outside Kuwait, for a job that can be performed by a Kuwaiti or GCC citizen.

He hoped that the new law will greatly stabilise the labour market in Kuwait. The law effectively deals with the five basic problems which could not be completely solved by previous laws.

The official added that the law strictly bans foreign workers

from working for anyone other than their sponsors.

It also bans employers from employing workers other than those sponsored by them. The official hoped that this would help organise and control the labour market in the private sector.

Transfer

He said the clause which bans the transfer of residency of workers before three years will help achieve the stability needed by the workers themselves.

He added that this clause applies both to workers recruited from outside Kuwait and those recruited locally, with the exception of those who have lived in Kuwait for 10 consecutive years.

Shabman added that the law also deals with the ban on transfer of maids and similar residence permits to the private sector.

This ban was previously imposed in 1984 but was relaxed

for a number of cases. The new law, however, completely bans such transfers of residence.

He stated that the main reason for issuing the new law is to cope with new developments in the manpower market in the private sector.

He predicted that the new law will help increase contribution of Kuwaiti and GCC citizens in the country's development.

He announced that the labour departments of the ministry in the four governorates issued about 90,000 work permits for expatriate manpower, last year, but only 62,000 workers entered the country.

He added that 31,500 residence permits of workers leaving the country were cancelled in 1988.

The law will be effective two months after being published in the official gazette, "Al Kuwait Al Youm."



Karunanidhi casts his ballot at a polling station in Madras. (Reuters wirephoto)

Heavy turnout in Indian state polls

MADRAS, India, Jan. 21, (AP): Three Indian states went to the polls today to elect provincial legislatures in polls considered a barometer of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's popularity before the next general election.

At least 19 people were injured in sporadic violence in the three states, news reports said.

Elections officials reported heavy turnout in all three states. Rajiv must call parliamentary elections by December that will decide who will rule India for the next five years.

An estimated 75 per cent of the 600,000 eligible voters in Nagaland and about 97 per cent of the 300,000 eligible voters in Mizoram cast their ballots, according to election officials.

An estimated 65 per cent of the 36 million eligible voters in Tamil Nadu went to the polls, they said.

Results were expected tomorrow.

Injured

Balloting was suspended at five centres in Nagaland following clashes between rival groups and left three people injured, election officials said.

United News of India said at least 16 supporters of Rajiv's party were injured in Tamil Nadu, where two bombs exploded. Balloting in Mizoram proceeded peacefully.

All three states were placed under direct federal control, or President's Rule, last year.

Today's elections are important for Rajiv and his Congress Party, pitted against popular regional parties in all three states.

But the crucial test is Tamil Nadu, where more than 2,000 candidates are vying for 234 seats in the state assembly.

A victory in Tamil Nadu would give his party momentum to call a "snap" election, well

before the December deadline.

A loss, however, could rule out an early election and give the newly-formed opposition Janata Dal (people's party) and other national parties nearly a year to get organised.

The Congress Party, which has enjoyed almost uninterrupted political control of India in the 41 years since independence, has not held power in Tamil Nadu since 1967.

But pre-election polls showed Congress trailing the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Party of Muthuvel Karunanidhi, which is expected to win about 120 assembly seats.

Karunanidhi is backed by V.P. Singh, who served as Rajiv's finance and defence ministers before he was dismissed and expelled from the Congress Party for conducting tax raids on government officials and ordering inquiries into foreign arms deals.

Singh is trying to unite the Janata Dal, a loose coalition of three northern parties, to challenge Rajiv and Congress in the general election.

Predicted

A confident Karunanidhi predicted: "I will win more than 140 seats. The people want a change."

Karunanidhi served as Tamil Nadu chief minister, from 1967 to 1976 before losing to M.G. Ramachandran, a popular actor who turned to politics at the peak of his career.

Ramachandran ruled Tamil Nadu for 10 years until he died in December 1987. His death split the once-large All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam Party into two factions — one led by 64-year-old wife, Janaki, and the other by Jayalalitha Jayaram.

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

○ کہتے ہیں تین سال تک
اقتصاد تبدیل نہ کرنے کی
پابندی لگا دی گئی
○ بھارت کے ریاستی
انتخابات کے دوران ہنگامے
سیکڑوں افراد زخمی
○ وزیر اعظم بے نظیر بھٹو کا
فیصل آباد اور لاہور میں جلسوں
سے خطاب
○ بلوچستان اور سرحد کی کابینہ
میں توسیع کر دی گئی
○ غلجی ریاستوں میں اشیائی
کارکنوں کی تعداد میں ہزاروں
گنا اضافہ
○ پاکستان نے بھارت کو تین
گول سے ہرا دیا
○ کہتے ہیں کہ فضائی کراہوں
میں اضافہ آپریل سے ہو گا

WEATHER

CLOUDY to partly cloudy weather with moderate to fresh south-easterly wind and a chance for scattered rain.

State of sea: moderate to rough

High water: 1.30 am, 11.40 am

Low water: 7.00 am, 6.30 pm

Sunrise: 6.42 am

Sunset: 5.17 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 20°C 68°F

Ahmad: 18°C 64°F

Falaka: 18°C 64°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 13°C 55°F

Ahmad: 12°C 54°F

Falaka: 13°C 55°F

Maximum temperatures expected:

Kuwait: 21°C 70°F

Ahmad: 18°C 64°F

Falaka: 18°C 64°F

Maximum humidity recorded:

Kuwait: 33 per cent

Ahmad: 38 per cent

Falaka: 49 per cent

2 killed, scores arrested

Protests against Israeli oppression

RAMALLAH, West Bank, Jan. 21, (Reuters): Israeli troops shot dead two Arabs and arrested at least 100 today amid protests in the occupied West Bank over tougher moves to quell unrest, Palestinian and military sources said.

Palestinian sources said soldiers shot Yasser Hamad, 28, by mistake after he fired in the air to disperse Arabs stoning the offices of the Israeli-appointed town council in Yatta, where he worked as a guard.

An official Israeli military source said Hamad had fired at soldiers with an Israeli-made Uzi submachine-gun.

Troops shot dead 14-year-old Ali Ibrahim Abu Sharifeh in a clash with demonstrators in the Tulkarm Palestinian refugee camp, an official at the town's hospital said.

Exploded

Police said an Arab teenager in Hebron died when a gas cylinder in a shop he had broken into exploded as he searched the premises by matchlight.

Palestinian sources earlier reported the youth appeared to have blown himself up while preparing a bomb.

A petrol bomb was hurled at

an Army patrol in Ramallah where hundreds of youths demonstrated against Israeli rule. Troops arrested at least 100 Palestinians and clamped a curfew on the town centre, security sources said.

Soldiers in Nabhus shot and wounded a 14-year-old girl during a stone-throwing demonstration there, hospital sources said.

Underground leaders of the 13-month-old uprising had called for increased clashes with troops today in protest against tougher measures to quash the unrest.

Egypt condemned Israel today for its handling of the uprising and urged moderation so progress could be made towards peace.

Efforts

Israeli Finance Minister Shimon Peres today welcomed Sweden's efforts as a go-between in forging Middle East peace but ruled out any talks with the PLO until the Palestinian uprising stopped.

"We find it impossible to talk to people involved in bombs and terror," Peres said after meeting Swedish Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson in the West German capital of Bonn.

PLO refutes charges against Arafat

TUNIS, Jan. 21, (Agencies): The PLO after two days of sullen silence, made its first formal response yesterday to US charges that chairman Yasser Arafat threatened to kill a West Bank mayor.

The official PLO spokesman said the campaign against Arafat was flagrant interference in internal Palestinian affairs and designed to cover repressive Israeli measures against the intifada (uprising) in the occupied territories.

The US State Department said it had a tape recording on which Arafat said: "Whoever thinks of stopping the intifada before it achieves its goal, I will give him 10 bullets in the chest."

Threat

State Department spokesman Charles Redman interpreted this as a clear threat against Bethlehem Mayor Elias Frej, who had proposed a UN-sponsored truce in the territories.

The PLO spokesman, quoted by the PLO news agency Wafa, but not named, said: "Mr Elias Frej is a Palestinian citizen whose rights the PLO and not the United States will protect. The statements by US officials therefore amount to flagrant interference in Palestinian internal

affairs, especially as Mr Elias Frej has already denied being subject to any threat."

He added: "The US officials propagating such information are helping to encourage the Israeli occupation forces in their crimes against our people and are thus trying to cover them."

"While deploring the conduct of this campaign, the PLO hopes that President George Bush, who has just been inaugurated, will push forward the process of peace in the region and oppose the continued occupation of our territory."

PLO officials have said the dispute arose from a misunderstanding of remarks Arafat made in a speech in the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh on New Year's Day.

Arafat, who had earlier been criticised for being too moderate, actually said his own life would be in danger if he tried to call off the intifada, they said.

Abdulghani

AMMAN, Jan. 21, (Reuters): North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdulghani arrived in Jordan today to bolster bilateral ties during talks with his Jordanian counterpart Zeid Al Rifai.

Oldest book of the Psalms of David found

CAIRO, Jan. 21, (UPI): The oldest book of the Psalms of David, dating back to the 4th century B.C., has been discovered in southern Egypt, the Middle East News Agency reported yesterday.

Egyptian archaeologists found the 490-page book more than two and a half years ago at the ancient tomb of a 12-year-old girl near the town of Beni Suef, about 85 miles (135 km) south of Cairo, the agency said.

The archaeologists said they did not want to announce their discovery until the age of the book could be determined — a process that took about two years to complete.

The book has a cover of wood and leather and finely delicate paper was used for the text, which covered the full Psalms scriptures, a collection of 150 hymns of praise.

"It is an extremely important archaeological find," said Gawdat Garbrah, head of the Coptic Museum in Cairo, where the book is housed.

Minesweeping off Bahrain

BAHRAIN, Jan. 21, (Reuters): Three British minesweepers arrived in Bahrain today to begin clearing a 26-mile shipping channel leading to the island's Mina (port) Sulman.

A British embassy spokesman said the minesweepers Cottelsmore, Berkely and Chiddingfold and their support ship Herald would begin the job — their last operation in the Gulf — on Monday.

Belgium, Italy, and the Netherlands have already withdrawn their minesweepers.

Bonn diplomats leave Kabul

KABUL, Jan. 21, (Agencies): West German diplomats left Kabul today as concern mounted over an economic blockade and violence in the capital when Soviet troops withdrew.

In Bonn, the West German Foreign Ministry confirmed it had ordered its diplomats to leave Kabul.

Juergen Chrobog, chief spokesman for the West German Foreign Ministry, said the embassy would continue to function "on a reduced status" and would be maintained by a small local staff.

It was believed to be the first major pullout of diplomats by a Western nation since Soviet troops backing the Afghan government against Muslim rebels began their withdrawal last year.

The three remaining West German diplomats departed on a flight to New Delhi, India, this afternoon with no prior announcement, according to Western

diplomatic sources.

Other Western embassies said they were reviewing their positions.

The British embassy has sent final warnings to more than 60 Britons and other Westerners for whom it has consular responsibility, advising them to leave because of worsening conditions.

The United Nations has decided to leave just one foreign representative in Kabul for each of its agencies such as the UN Children's Fund, UNICEF.

Prospect

However, the warning coincided with the arrival of several food and fuel convoys bringing relief supplies to Kabul, leading to shorter queues for basic necessities.

Although there was no imminent prospect of the Soviet-backed government collapsing, one diplomat said: "I think it (the warning) is a very prudent thing to do when there is a great deal of

uncertainty."

A key commander of Muslim rebels surrounding Kabul predicts the communist regime will collapse within weeks of the Soviet troop withdrawal, saying he thinks the Afghan Army's morale is broken.

Abdul Haq, field commander of the main faction of guerrillas around the capital, said Afghanistan's Soviet-backed military knows it is "finished."

"They (soldiers) don't want to die for the regime, and the party people are on their way out of Afghanistan," Haq said in Peshawar, Pakistan.

Western diplomats in Islamabad have reported an exodus from the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan since last May.

About 10,000 PDPA members and their families have fled the country for Pakistan, India or the Soviet Union, according to the diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Bush rules out offering concessions to hostage-holders

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, (Agencies): President George Bush ruled out offering concessions in efforts to free US hostages in Lebanon, but said the hostages' release would engender a comparable act of goodwill from the United States.

The new President greeted tourists visiting the White House, sent a letter to Congress asking to address a joint session on Feb. 9, welcomed a letter of congratulations from the Kremlin and met with reporters during his first visit to the Oval Office since being inaugurated yesterday.

Bush said, at a brief question and answer session, he hoped a plea for assistance in the hostage matter in his inaugural speech "was heard around the world."

"I want to make clear to them that goodwill begets goodwill," he said when asked whether he was extending an olive branch to the hostage-holders.

He added: "We are not going to escalate the currency of holding Americans hostage. We are not going to have people feel that we are going to make concessions in order to free those precious lives."

Letter

Bush said he had received a congratulatory letter from Mikhail Gorbachev expressing Gorbachev's desire to work for peace.

"He has contacted me through a nice, very generous letter — a letter pledging, you know, pledging to work for world peace," Bush said.

Bush, who was sworn in yesterday as US leader replacing Ronald Reagan, did not say when he had received the letter from the Soviet leader. Bush also received a letter from French President Francois Mitterrand.

"Clearly I will respond not only to that communications from Mr Gorbachev but to expressions of goodwill from all around the world. It's been very heartwarming and I want to make sure we do get these responses out," he said.

With his frail, 87-year-old mother Dorothy seated beside him, Bush seemed relaxed and in very good spirits during the impromptu news conference.

Bush, 64, revealed that a private note Reagan had left in a desk drawer for him was written on a notepad inscribed: "Don't let the turkeys get you down."

"Nobody here should take personal offence at this at all," he quipped. "This is a broad ecumenical statement... I don't know who he (Reagan) is speak-

ing about there."

Bush held up the notepad, which was illustrated with a cartoon showing a group of turkeys trying to wrestle with an elephant — the symbol of Republican Party.

"Let's see if I dare read you this," Bush said, taking a quick glance at Reagan's handwritten message and turning to show it to his mother.

"Dear George," he said, reading the note aloud: "You'll have moments when you want to use this particular stationery. Well, go to it, George. I treasure the memories we share. I wish you all the very best. You're in my prayers. God bless you and Barbara. I'll miss our Thursday lunches. Ron."

During the eight years of his presidency, Reagan met Bush for lunch on most Thursdays when the two were in Washington.

Asked how it felt to be in the Oval Office, his political goal for a decade, Bush said: "I can't wait to get to work — I mean serious work."

Concern

Shortly before 8 am EST (1300 GMT), Bush and his wife Barbara led a group of ordinary people on a tour of the White House to underline the concern for individuals he stressed in his inaugural address.

"I'm in awe — they acted like we were family," said Howard Bell, a college student who was selected for the tour by being one of the first in line.

Not all of those who waited through the night outside the White House in freezing temperatures were US citizens.

Anthony Stockdale, a real estate broker from Melbourne, Australia, and his wife and three children were also in the group that joined the Bushes on the tour.

Signed

Bush sent a letter to the bipartisan leadership of Congress, inviting them to meet with him Tuesday at the White House to discuss the nation's deficit and its foreign policy. He asked for the opportunity to address a joint session of the Congress on Thursday, Feb. 9.

Bush, in his first acts as President yesterday, signed a proclamation making Sunday a national day of prayer and thanksgiving, and added his signature to the nomination of 17 cabinet members and administration advisers.

This will "put me on the payroll," Bush joked as he entered the President's Room just off the Senate floor.



Bush with his mother, Dorothy, in the Oval Office. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mr President? Who, me?

WASHINGTON, Jan. 21, (UPI): The first time George Bush was called "Mr President" yesterday, it took a witty nudge — "something between an affectionate hug and a kidney punch" — to remind him he was the nation's new leader.

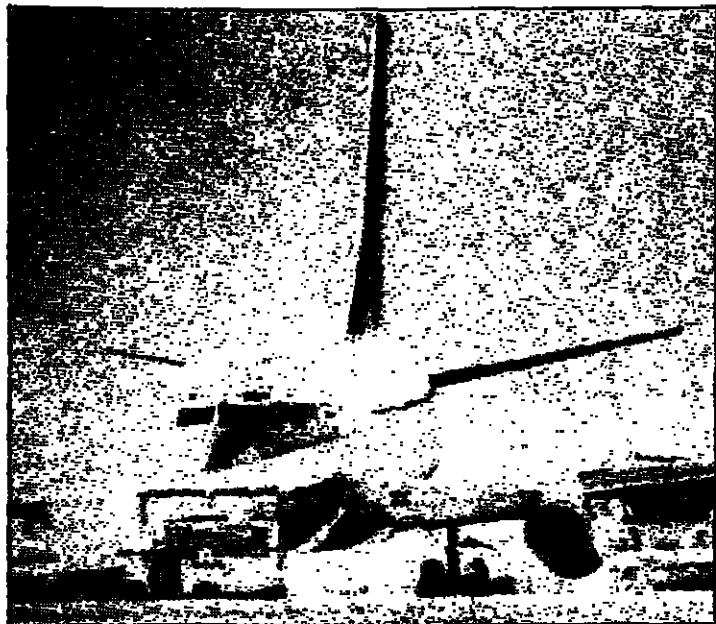
Waiting

Bush, speaking to a congressional luncheon, told lawmakers that after taking the oath of office as the 41st President, it came as a surprise when the sergeant-at-arms of the House of Representatives called him by his

new title.

"As we walked out of the platform there, coming up some steps and then down some steps to say goodbye to President Reagan, the sergeant-at-arms of the House said 'Mr President' and I'm standing there waiting for President Reagan," Bush said.

"And I feel something that was between an affectionate hug and a kidney punch — the 'Silver Fox' telling me to get going," Bush added, referring to his wife, Barbara by her nickname.



A Piedmont Airlines Boeing 737, stands at the end of a runway at O'Hare airport in Chicago, after the right engine fell off shortly after take off, forcing the plane to make an emergency landing. (Reuters wirephoto)

Latest of several incidents

Boeing lands safely with engine shut down

LONDON, Jan 21, (Reuters): A British Airways Boeing 737 jet landed safely at London's Heathrow airport today with one engine shut down in the latest of several incidents connected with Boeing planes this month.

The pilot reported problems in mid-air and fire engines and ambulances rushed to the runway as the jet approached. It landed safely and no one was hurt, airport officials said.

Engineers were examining the plane, which was on a shuttle flight from Edinburgh with 82 passengers aboard. A British Airways spokeswoman said there had not been a fire or explosion in the engine.

Fault
The 737 is one of the most modern in the British Airways fleet and has a number of fail-safe systems to enable it to fly with one engine out of action.

The spokeswoman said: "The captain reported a fault in number one engine about half way through the flight and decided to

shut down the engine purely as a precautionary measure."

She said the airline was treating the incident as routine and there was no question of other 737s being called in for checks at this stage.

On Thursday, a Boeing 757 owned by Eastern Airlines made a safe landing in Atlanta after a wing panel fell off. The next day the right engine of Piedmont Airlines Boeing 737 fell off shortly after take-off in Chicago.

There were no injuries in either incident.

On Jan 7, a British Midland Airways Boeing 737 crashed in central England, killing 44 people, after one of its engines burned and broke up.

British investigators have said the jet's left engine caught fire but the crew shut down the right engine. They are trying to find out why.

Boeing is suspending delivery of its new 737-400 series jumbo jet after faults were detected in the wiring system of some planes.

Inmates set prison ablaze

LORTON, Virginia, Jan 21, (AP): Fires set by inmates erupted last night at a prison south of Washington, and one inmate was killed and an unknown number of other inmates roamed free within the sprawling complex, authorities said.

At least four fires were set in the complex and the administration building of the central facility was destroyed by the flames, according to officials.

Washington Mayor Marion Barry, accompanied by his wife Effi, both dressed in formal clothes they wore to last night's inaugural balls for President

George Bush, arrived early today for a briefing.

The fires broke out at the Lorton Corrections Complex, south of the capital. The medium-security complex houses about 1,280 inmates from Washington in dormitories and has been the scene of numerous inmate protests because of overcrowded conditions.

Pat Wheeler, a spokeswoman for the Washington corrections department, said one inmate was killed in the outbreak and another was injured.

Ms. Wheeler said all inmates had been accounted for and none had escaped from the complex.

Former president arrives home in California

Reagan acknowledges it was hard to say goodbye

LOS ANGELES, Jan 21, (UPI): A nostalgic Reagan, acknowledging "it was hard to say goodbye," arrived home in California yesterday after taking one last look at the Oval Office and leaving two handwritten notes for President George Bush.

After a brief airport reception with Mayor Tom Bradley, actor Robert Stack and others, the former president and Nancy Reagan were whisked by motorcade to their new home in the exclusive Bel Air section.

The airport reception attracted about 700 people waving placards that read "Welcome home," "The king and queen return," and "Happy trails again."

Crowd

"It has been a bittersweet several hours today," Reagan told the crowd. "There were many wonderful associates that we have been working with the last eight years that we had to say goodbye to."

Reagan, relaxed and subdued, and a teary-eyed Mrs Reagan spoke with reporters for about 20 minutes aboard the Air Force airliner taking them home to California.

"It was hard to say goodbye,"

Reagan said, but adding they were returning to "a life we did love very much."

"California isn't a place in my mind, it's a way of life. So that's the sweet part of the bittersweet experience," Reagan said.

Reflecting on his eight-year administration, Reagan said, "I think there are a lot of things yet to be done" and he listed as unfinished business the outlawing of abortion, a balanced-budget constitutional amendment and line-item veto power for the president.

"I think anyone that leaves that job with a feeling of things undone, but you just run out of time and that's why I believe I can continue working for those things by taking the case to the people," Reagan said, reiterating he will be making speeches on behalf of causes he supports.

Inheritance

When Reagan was asked what inheritance he left for Bush, Mrs Reagan interjected, "a peaceful world."

Reagan added, "I think there is a better relationship worldwide than we've had and certainly the economic situation is something different than it was when we came here in '80."

Early yesterday, the 77-year-old Reagan spent one last nostalgic morning poking around the executive mansion, including a final look at the Oval Office that was his place of business for eight years.

Asked about his final visit to the Oval Office, Reagan explained, "I just went down there — first of all, there were a lot of things, personal things in that office, that I had listed should be moved and sent out to California, so I went in for a check. It did look pretty bare and all of that."

Nostalgic

But he also said it was "a nostalgic moment of wanting to take just one more look at the place that every morning I've been walking into, leaving in the evening, and it was just sheer nostalgia."

Reagan also said that he left a note for Bush in the desk of the Oval Office. Asked what it said, he said it was "just a little one, telling him just to carry on and he'd been in my thoughts and prayers."

In Washington, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Reagan left Bush two private handwritten notes.

240 demonstrators detained

Series of bomb threats against Prague police

PRAGUE, Jan 21, (Reuters): The Czechoslovak Communist Party today accused the organisers of this week's political demonstrations of threatening to use firearms against police if they intervened to disperse protesters.

The party newspaper Rude Pravo also said a series of bomb threats had been received during the six days of demonstrations — the most widespread in 20 years — in Prague's central Wenceslas Square.

Invasion

The demonstrations were called to mark the 20th anniversary of the death of student Jan Palach who set fire to himself in protest against the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia.

Rude Pravo said dozens of the firearms threats were received by telephone at Rude Pravo and the Prague police emergency telephone exchange yesterday.

"They announced that if police did not leave the anti-state demonstrators... alone, firearms will be used," the newspaper said.

While the alleged threat referred specifically to yesterday's protest, Rude Pravo said similar threats had come from

organisers of all six days of demonstrations.

It gave no further details and it was not clear whether the alleged threats also applied to possible future demonstrations.

"These are undoubtedly threats of the organisers and instigators of the actions on Wenceslas Square," it said.

"Those who threaten physical violence against their fellow citizens will meet not only with scorn but with adequate response. We will not have the republic disrupted."

Riot police dispersed several hundred demonstrators yesterday.

Police severely beat many in a crowd of about 2,000 demonstrators yesterday. The newspaper Mlada Fronta reported today that 240 people were detained that day.

Rude Pravo said a bomb threat was received yesterday at a cinema on Wenceslas Square. Mlada Fronta, the socialist youth union's newspaper, said bomb threats were also received during the past week at two high schools, a department store, the main railway station and a site behind the national theatre.

Bush used me as a tool, says Horton

NEW YORK, Jan 21, (AP): Willie Horton, the furloughed Massachusetts inmate pictured in one of the most effective TV commercials of the 1988 presidential campaign, says George Bush used him to duck the real issues facing the country.

"Bush did what he had to do to win. He took my whole case and won with it," Horton was quoted as saying in yesterday's New York Newsday. "Bush used me as a tool."

Horton, a 38-year-old murderer, fled in 1986 while on his 10th furlough from a Massachusetts prison. A year later, he was arrested and convicted of rape, kidnapping and assault with intent to murder a Maryland couple.

Soft

The case was used in Bush commercials against Michael Dukakis, Governor of Massachusetts. The Republicans implied the Democrats were soft on criminals.

Interviewed at the Maryland State Penitentiary in Baltimore, Horton said Bush used his case "to camouflage the real issues" and avoid talking about more important things such as "people being broke."

Beatrice Lillie dies at 94

LONDON, Jan 21, (AP): Beatrice Lillie, billed as "the funniest woman in the world" during a film and theatre career which spanned half a century, died yesterday at home, her conservator said. She was 94.

Her film credits included: "Exit Smiling" in 1927, "Around the World in Eighty Days" in 1956 and "Thoroughly Modern Millie" in 1967.

Staged performances included "Auntie Mame" and "Too True To Be Good."

She just went this morning, peacefully, at 8.47 am," said John Phillip Huck, who said he had been associated with the actress for 40 years and was appointed her conservator in 1977.

The report of her death in Henley-on-Thames was confirmed by Miss Lillie's physician, Dr Jennifer Copeland.

Lillie was a master of elegant double entendres and sharp ripostes delivered with a flourish of an enormously long cigarette-holder.

She titled her 1973 autobiography: "Every Other Inch a Lady." Born Beatrice Gladys Lillie in Toronto, Lillie first appeared on stage in 1914 and in America 10 years later in a review produced by Andre Charlot.

In 1928, she appeared in New York in Noel Coward's "This Year of Grace," which had a long run.

In 1932, Lillie took a dramatic role as the nurse in the New York premiere of George Bernard Shaw's "Too True To Be Good," but then returned to working in reviews. Those included "At Home Abroad" in 1935, "The Show is On" in 1936 and Coward's "Set to Music," in 1939.

Dali still critical

FIGUERAS, Spain, Jan 21, (Reuters): Spanish artist Salvador Dali remained critically ill today, only partially responding to treatment for heart and breathing trouble, his doctor said.

"His condition is very serious," Dr Carlos Ponsati told reporters at the small hospital in Dali's hometown of Figueras in northeastern Spain.

Ponsati said Dali was "a bit depressed" but conscious and willing to co-operate with doctors.

Visits were restricted to close associates of the 84-year-old painter, who was taken to hospital on Wednesday for the third time in two months.

15 detained

ASSIUT, Egypt, Jan 21, (AP): Police have arrested 15 Muslim extremists suspected of involvement in a fire outside a Protestant church in a village north of Assiut, security sources said today.



Harding, 92, dies

LONDON, Jan 21, (Reuters): Field Marshal Lord Harding, a commander of Britain's forces in North Africa during World War Two, has died at the age of 92, his family said yesterday.

Harding, who became a peer in 1958, was also British governor and commander-in-chief in Cyprus, where in the mid-1950s he faced death threats from the Eoka guerrilla group which sought union with Greece.

As a brigadier-general, Harding commanded Britain's seventh armoured division, known as the "desert rats," in the battle of El Alamein that turned the tide against the forces of German Field Marshal Erwin Romel in Egypt.

Shell

Harding was badly wounded when a shell landed beside the tank on which he was standing.

He was appointed commander-in-chief of the British Army of the Rhine in 1951 and became chief of the imperial general staff in 1952 before being promoted to the rank of Field Marshal a year later.

Harding was active after his retirement in charity work for the disabled.

Rubik's puzzle not to be computerised, says inventor

NEW DELHI, Jan 21, (AP): The inventor of Rubik's puzzles said yesterday he's against the idea of letting his world-famed games become computerised.

"I want people to feel our puzzles in their hands and not solve them on a computer screen," Erno Rubik, the Hungarian inventor whose games took the world by storm, said in an interview.

"I have no intention of creating computer games or letting our puzzles go computer," the 44-year-old architectural engineer said. "The games we have are much more fun, you get great satisfaction when you hold the game by your hands and solve it."

Rubik is in India attending a government-sponsored conference on "making of the earth citizen," organised in memory of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

Fluctuation

Rubik's cube, which hit the market in 1977 and became a craze among teenagers worldwide, each year takes in \$30 million to 100 million in sales. The fluctuation in sale proceeds is attributed to piracy.

"Piracy is a big, big problem. We are trying to check it," said Rubik. "But the pirates are real puzzling."

His latest puzzle, the Rubik's clock, hit the European and American markets in September and two million pieces, each priced at seven pounds (\$12), have already been sold.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Musavi returns

NICOSIA, Jan 21, (AP): Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi returned yesterday from official visits to Italy and Poland with a set of trade accords to help rebuild the country's ravaged economy after the eight-year Gulf war.

OAU chairman

ALGIERS, Jan 21, (Reuters): Moussa Traore, President of Mali and current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, is to pay a two-day state visit to Algeria at the end of January, the official APS news agency reported today.

Solidarity meeting

WARSAW, Jan 21, (Reuters): Solidarity leaders met today to decide whether an offer by Poland's ruling Communist Party to legalise the union it suppressed in 1981 can clear the way to a deal with the authorities.

Cyrankiewicz dies

WARSAW, Jan 21, (AP): Jozef Cyrankiewicz, the two-time prime minister who signed the landmark 1970 agreement with West Germany that formally established Poland's disputed western border, has died, the state news agency reported today.

Libyan plant won't produce poison gas: Iraqi

BONN, Jan 21, (Reuters): Iraqi businessman Ihsan Barbouti, a key figure in the construction of an alleged Libyan chemical weapon plant, denied yesterday that it would produce poison gas.

Barbouti, interviewed from London by West German Television, rejected US claims that the Rabta plant would make chemical weapons. Libya has said it produces only medicines.

"The Americans can claim a lot but there is no chemical weapons factory there," he said. "As far as I know it is a pharmaceutical plant."

Barbouti said he worked with about 100 West German firms in supplying material for the plant's construction and insisted that this was the limit of involvement for his IBI management firm, based in Frankfurt.

"We provided the building material, the Libyans built the factory themselves," he said. West German authorities investigating the part German firms played in setting up the plant had not contacted him in London, Barbouti said, but he would be only too happy if they did so. "Perhaps I would be able to tell them more," he said.

FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY in everloving memory of



Sandra Tereza D'Souza

There will be a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Sandra Tereza D'Souza on the 29th of January 1989 at 8.30 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral, offered by her sorrowful family. Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only invitation.

Born: 21-3-1965
Died: 22-1-1988



Marlboro Lights

GOVERNMENT WARNING: SMOKING IS A MAIN CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES.

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1988 RESULTS

- INCREASE IN NET PROFIT 60%
- RETURN ON PAID SHARE CAPITAL 46%
- INCREASE IN TOTAL ASSETS 35%

ARABIAN INVESTMENT BANKING CORPORATION (INVESTCORP) E.C.

INVESTCORP

INVESTCORP HOUSE
P.O. Box 5340, Manama, Bahrain
Telephone: 532000
Telex: 9664 INVCORP BH Fax: 530816

MESSAGE TO SHAREHOLDERS

INVESTCORP's net income for the twelve months ending December 31, 1988 was \$46.2 million, an increase of 60 per cent over 1987 and 203 per cent over 1986. The Return on Average Shareholders Funds in 1988 was 31.6 per cent; the Return on Paid Share Capital was 46.2 per cent; and the Return on Average Assets was 7.1 per cent.

As these financial results indicate, this has been a year of major accomplishment for INVESTCORP. In last year's Message to Shareholders, we indicated that business would ultimately be measured by the capital values realized from performance of the companies in our portfolio and the attractive market for its clients. INVESTCORP arranged the sale, on behalf of itself and company divestitures, INVESTCORP arranged the sale, on behalf of itself and INVESTCORP has once again completed the cycle of acquisition, holding and realization with outstanding returns for its clients.

In addition to the divestitures accomplished in the second half of 1988, INVESTCORP was active in new acquisitions when corporate prices were favorable. During this period INVESTCORP initiated the acquisition of the Georgia; New York Department Stores of Puerto Rico and Seedmans of Puerto Rico, which together form the largest independent department store chain in Puerto Rico; and the Main Street Dairy Division of Carnation in Los Angeles, California. INVESTCORP also acquired significant shareholdings in Guccio Gucci S.P.A., Florence, Italy, and Guccio America Inc., New York, New York, the world renowned luxury goods producers and retailers.

Moreover, 1988 was a year of substantial activity for our International Real Estate line of business. During the year we initiated the following property transactions: Clay Street, San Francisco, a prestigious residential development; Mountain View, Silicon Valley, California, a combined commercial and residential development; 53 West 53rd Street, New York, a major office development project; 27 Old Bond Street, London, a retail/office investment; and 65 Brook Street, London, a prime office investment. These real estate transactions promise to produce continued strong returns for clients over the coming years as well as an excellent asset base for our International Real Estate Fund.

1988 was also a year of building for our Portfolio Fund and Marketing Teams. Effective January 1989, the senior management of these two teams has been consolidated in our Bahrain office, where five professionals will provide investment services to our clients. Additionally, a senior professional has joined our Firm to pursue our European investment marketing plans.

In the past year INVESTCORP has extended its geographical presence with the official opening of its New York office in June 1988. With seven senior professionals based in New York, the Firm has the resources in the United States to be fully active in this important market for prime corporate and real estate investments. The Firm has similarly expanded its European professional resources and effective January 1989 has nine London-based senior professionals dedicated to corporate and real estate investments.

Lastly, INVESTCORP, its shareholders, clients, employees and friends, celebrated the Firm's Fifth Anniversary in 1988. These five years were ones of remarkable achievement for INVESTCORP. Of course the financial results have been gratifying. However, even more importantly, starting with a small group of highly dedicated professionals, in five years INVESTCORP has developed into a respected international investment institution. Today INVESTCORP has the resources and reputation to be effective in three major capital markets, North America, Europe and the Arabian Gulf. In taking this institutional approach we have assured a long-term, stable and profitable future for INVESTCORP, in which our shareholders and clients will share for many years to come.

INVESTCORP's performance in 1988 stands as a confirmation of the views we expressed in our 1987 Message to Shareholders — that in a financial world where instability and uncertainty prevail, adherence to the guiding principles on which INVESTCORP was founded will distinguish INVESTCORP from other firms and assure its success. These accomplishments were in turn founded on the enduring support provided by our shareholders and clients. We are grateful to each of you.

ABDUL RAHMAN SALIM AL-ATEEQI
Chairman of the Board of Directors

NEMIR A. KIRDAR
President and Chief Executive Officer

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS For the Year Ended December 31, 1988

	1988 US \$ 000	1987 US \$ 000
STATEMENT OF INCOME		
Interest income	58,124	31,359
Interest expense	(36,318)	(18,999)
Net interest income	13,806	12,360
Net other income	53,967	32,828
Operating income	67,773	45,188
Less: Operating expenses	(23,338)	(18,710)
	44,435	26,478
Share of profits in associated companies	1,734	2,325
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	46,172	28,803
STATEMENT OF RETAINED EARNINGS		
Balance at beginning of the year	12,060	6,036
Net income for the year	46,172	28,803
	58,232	34,839
Transfer to statutory reserve	4,617	2,880
Transfer to general reserve	4,617	2,880
Proposed dividend	15,000	15,000
Directors' remuneration	1,493	1,443
Charitable contributions	923	576
	26,659	22,779
Balance at end of the year	31,582	12,060

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

The above statements of Income, Retained Earnings and Balance Sheet are extracts from the unqualified audited Financial Statements of the Arabian Investment Banking Corporation (INVESTCORP) E.C.

January 22, 1989

Ernst & Young

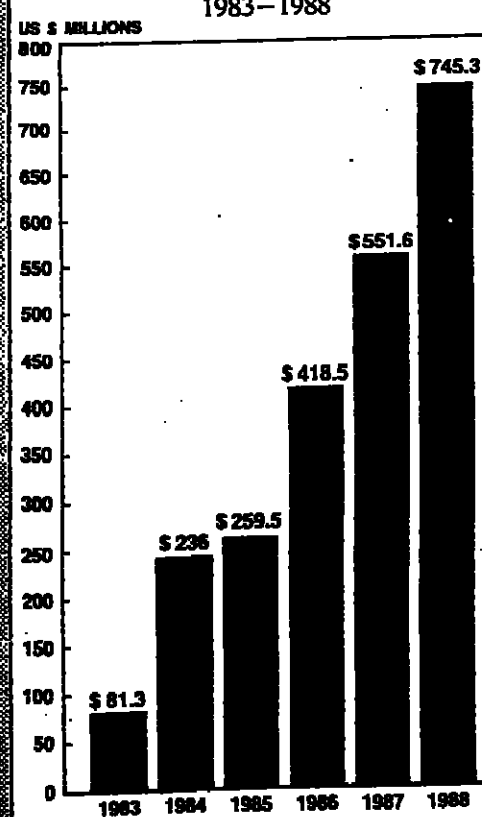
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET As at December 31, 1988

	1988 US \$ 000	1987 US \$ 000
ASSETS		
Cash and short term funds	31,484	5,117
Deposits with banks	358,116	247,244
Marketable securities	14,463	59,802
Accounts receivable	51,669	33,813
Investment trading account	123,698	93,610
Accrued interest and other assets	16,888	9,327
Investments	182,973	51,739
Investment in associated companies	13,814	35,630
Fixed assets	32,979	15,332
Total assets	745,254	551,614
LIABILITIES		
Deposits from banks	161,286	178,016
Other deposits	235,714	98,845
Proposed dividend	15,000	15,000
Accrued interest and other payables	47,911	28,166
Euronotes issued	125,000	100,000
Total liabilities	584,911	420,027
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
Share capital	100,000	100,000
Share premium reserve	4,879	4,079
Statutory reserve	12,341	7,724
General reserve	12,341	7,724
Retained earnings	31,582	12,060
Total shareholders' funds	160,343	131,587
Total liabilities and shareholders' funds	745,254	551,614

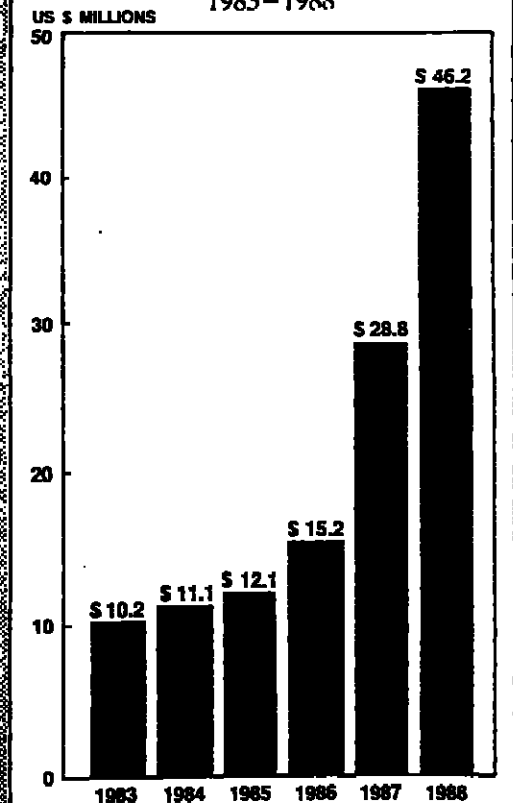
ABDUL RAHMAN SALIM AL-ATEEQI
Chairman of the Board of Directors

NEMIR A. KIRDAR
President and Chief Executive Officer

TOTAL ASSETS 1983-1988



NET INCOME 1983-1988



ARABIAN INVESTMENT BANKING CORPORATION (INVESTCORP) E.C.

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New York, New York 10017, U.S.A.
Tel: 212-599 4700, Fax: 212-983 7073, Tlx: 4976329



Somali President Siad Barre being received at the airport by HH the Amir.

Barre arrives for three-day official visit

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre arrived here today afternoon on a three-day official visit to Kuwait.

He was welcomed on arrival at Kuwait International Airport by HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Premier, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Minister of Amiri Diwan's Affairs and a number of ministers and senior officials as well as the staff of the Somali embassy in Kuwait.

President Barre is accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising head of the ruling party's Public Service Commission Engineer Othman Jamei, Minister of Political Affairs Dr Abdqassem Salad Hassan, State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Mohammed Ali Hamid, Higher Education and Culture Minister Abdullah Mohammed Meri and Director of Internal Policies Department Dr Eleni Mohammed Siad Barre.

Also accompanying the visiting president are Information and Tourism Minister Dr Abdul Rasheed Ahmed and a number of senior government officials besides a press delegation.

Headed
A mission of honour headed by Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khalid was set up to accompany President Barre during his stay in Kuwait.

Barre's talks with the Amir and other Kuwaiti leaders are expected to centre on progress of traditionally close ties between the two sister Arab countries and ways of enhancing them.

Arab and international issues, besides African developments, are also expected to feature prominently in the exchanges between the Kuwaiti and Somali leaders.

Barre flew here from Egypt, where he was vacationing following a three-day state visit that started last Monday.

The Somali President had talks with his Egyptian host, Hosni Mubarak tackling bilateral links and African issues.

Barre had started his tour in Baghdad where he exchanged views with President Saddam Hussein and senior officials on bilateral co-operation and UN-sponsored peace talks between Iraq and Iran.

Study to probe coastal pollution

A STUDY on the environmental evaluation of Kuwaiti coasts has been completed recently, according to Ibrahim Hadi, secretary-general of Kuwait Environment Protection Council.

In an interview with Al Seyasah, he said that the study was financed by the council but conducted by Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) with an implementation period of six months.

Hadi added that the study aimed at probing the coastal environment's natural and biological specifications and the problems facing these areas. It included an intensified work programme which involved necessary field studies covering about 35 different sites with an accurate field study at each site. The study was conducted throughout the four seasons.

Hadi claimed that the coasts' environmental problems were not yet critical but the study revealed that they were linked with different activities practiced in these areas, especially digging works.

The study also reflected an imperative need to conduct more studies to highlight environmental problems. It also called for establishing a new data centre for sea creatures, conducting a new environmental evaluation for Kuwait bay.

Number of Asian expats has increased manifold

A UNESCO study made on a number of Gulf states has concluded that Asian manpower immigrating to these states increased manifold between 1973 to 1988. The study was conducted to analyse certain social and cultural phenomena in some Gulf states.

The study added that some Asian countries like India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka exported not less than one million labourers each, to the Gulf states covered by the study.

Iraq, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were the Gulf countries covered by the study. It added that the Asian manpower immigration to the Gulf has been a distinctive individual phenomenon. The study also linked Asian manpower immigration to the Gulf with the oil boom after 1973.

The study which also covered four Asian manpower exporting countries, said that majority of

the immigrant manpower comprised of males except from Sri Lanka which exported an exceptional large number of females, most of them maids and servants.

Both Pakistan and Thailand ban exporting of young females. The study said that families of Asians working in the Gulf spent two thirds of their money on food and clothing while the remaining part was used in improving housing. It said that very few people returning to their home from the Gulf states could manage to build new homes nor many could rejoin their previous jobs.

The study added that the immigration wave and the years spent in the Gulf states did not affect the religious beliefs of the Asians.

A number of government ministries and departments are currently reviewing the results of the UNESCO study, it was learnt.

Sheikh Saad visits Barre

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah today evening paid a visit to visiting Somali President Mohammed Siad Barre at his residence in Al Salam Palace.

The audience was attended by the Head of Mission of Honour, Commerce and Industry Minister Faisal Abdul Razzaq Al Khalid.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber also called on President Barre at his residence in Al Salam Palace here later the same evening.

Islamic encyclopaedia

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ministry Undersecretary Mohammed Nasser Al Hamdhan said here today the Islamic Jurisprudence Encyclopaedia, expected to be finalised in 1990.

In statements to KUNA, Hamdhan said the new volume included jurisprudence concepts placed in alphabetical order.

The 25-volume encyclopaedia is held as Kuwait's present to the Islamic world.

GCC research

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): Education Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development Affairs Rashid Al Hamed today inaugurated here the fifth meeting for officials of the Gulf Co-operation Council Educational Research Institute.

In an inaugural speech, Hamed reviewed Arab education, its interaction with the development of educational research in advanced countries and problems faced by Arab educational institutions.

The four-day meeting aims at upgrading co-operation among the six GCC states in the field of educational research.

The first session of the meeting has been held this morning and the second session is scheduled for this evening.

Manner of departure fees levy under study

KUWAIT'S Minister of State for Service Affairs Issa Al Mazidi was quoted as saying that the manner in which departure fees at the international airport will be levied is still under study by the Directorate-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Ministry of Finance.

In an interview with a local daily, the minister said that many alternatives have been suggested, including the collecting of such a fee together with the ticket value, but he said this will create difficulties especially for passengers who may buy their tickets abroad.

Meanwhile, Al Mazidi has said that the ministry in co-operation with the authorities

New national urban development master plan

THE Minister of Municipal Affairs, Mohammed Abdul Mohsen Al Rifai, said that Kuwait Municipality is currently preparing a master plan as a preliminary step to establish the basis for national urban development and determine requirements of various residential areas.

He told a local daily that relevant authorities at the municipality have already approved a proposal for relocating existing industries, and installations that have potential environmen-

KAC move to increase fares

By Lima Al Khalafawi

KUWAIT Airways Corporation (KAC) and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have discussed the proposed rise in air fares, according to the Chairman and Managing Director of KAC, Ahmad Al Mishari.

He told the Arab Times that prices of tickets had declined during the past few years due to speculation and price violations, caused mainly by low market activity and stagnation.

A very serious move towards raising prices has been taken after witnessing a decline of company revenues. The official expected that the rise in prices will achieve a balance between companies and consumers.

KAC and other airlines are currently meeting officials at the DGCA to reach balanced price levels to ensure economical and operational requirements.

The official added that the decision of chartering some of the KAC planes solved the problem of surplus capacity in the fleet. He declared that before implementing this decision, studies were conducted to specify KAC needs to fulfill all scheduled, unscheduled and additional flights.

Practical evidence proved that KAC planes were efficient. Some planes were chartered last year. The number of passengers on KAC flights increased in comparison with the preceding year but still the KAC's timetable was followed, he explained.

Mishari stated that the Marriot GCC company was jointly founded in London by KAC, Saudia and Gulf Air. It provides excellent services at reasonable



Mishari ... economics

prices but will benefit greatly by catering to other airlines.

The company intends to establish an Islamic kitchen which offers special meals under Islamic sharia. This kitchen will be separated from the company's other activities and will offer services to all Arab and Islamic airlines to and from London, which will total 21 companies and cost £17 million.

The Internal Aviation Project among GCC states is still under consideration.

Mishari added that the idea of offering traditional Kuwaiti meals to passengers received good comments from those involved.

He added that the open air traffic policy on the Cairo-Kuwait route during the summer proved successful and both KAC and Egypt Air benefited.

The official disclosed that KAC is implementing open air traffic policies in the summer to Istanbul and Madrid, hoping that Arab countries with tourism capabilities will respond and agree to this policy in certain seasons.

Residents harassed at Juleeb Al Shiyukh telephone exchange

By Atiqus Samad

RESIDENTS of Abbasiya and Juleeb Al Shiyukh, who apply for telephones, face bureaucratic delays and harassment at the hands of officials.

There has been a tremendous rush for telephones after the new exchange was opened in Juleeb Al Shiyukh recently.

Instead of tackling this rush in a systematic and organised way, the telephone exchange officials have taken recourse to dilly-dallying.

As a result, new applications are piling up and people have to visit the office many times. People usually queue up from early morning mostly at the survey and cable departments.

The cable section is the worst offender as officials there frequently change rules. Sometimes they accept applications every day of the week and sometimes the applicants are asked to come only on certain days.

People have been mostly offended by the behaviour of the supervisor of the cable section. "He doesn't bother to say more than 'come next week' or 'come next month'," one applicant said.

The supervisor yesterday tore

off a receipt when he was told it was he who had asked the applicant to come on Jan 21. He also threatened to hand over the applicant to police.

The problem has arisen also because there is a shortage of staff at the telephone exchange. This problem can be easily solved, the applicants say.

Some suggested that the telephone exchange should be run by a committee of residents. The authorities can ask people to deposit the necessary fees and give them a suitable date for installing the telephones. Applicants may be told to enquire if telephones are not installed within that date."

The rush for phones and shortage of staff have also led to corruption. It was reported in the Arab Times that line-men had been asking for bribes to install phones.

The cable section has, meanwhile, stopped receiving papers for one month. An official at the telephone exchange said yesterday that this has been done to clear the backlog.

The Juleeb Al Shiyukh exchange has a surplus of over 10,000 telephone lines, according to Khalid Al Houti, Assistant Undersecretary at the Ministry of Communications.

Illiteracy centre methods unsuitable

THE two year system at the Illiteracy Eradication Centre does not suit the educational plan, according to a study published by the Educational Research Centre at the Ministry of Education.

Students and teachers require more time to gain skills and it was therefore suggested that a four year system to cover curriculum taught at the illiteracy eradication centres, be adopted.

The study also said that text books used for teaching do not fulfil requirements and therefore new books should be utilised.

Accident insurance

A LOCAL insurance company was ordered to pay a man, injured in a car accident, KD58,000 by the Cassation Court.

The man was injured in an accident resulting in total paralysis by another man insured by the company.

Acquittal

SEVEN youths were acquitted of abducting and sexually assaulting a female minor, by the Assizes Court.

The minor claimed that she was going to a bookshop when two youths pushed her into a car and drove to Rumaythiya.

However, medical examinations revealed that the minor's body did not have signs of resistance or sexual abuse.

Meanwhile, the parents of the minor discarded their daughter's story.

BARRAIN DIGEST

Tourism projects reviewed by Bahraini tourism council

PLANS for a number of major projects to boost tourism in Bahrain were recently reviewed in a meeting of the Supreme Council for Tourism under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Information, Tariq Al Moayed.

Abdur Rahman Mansour, advisor to the Directorate of Tourism, told the Arab Times that the council discussed the construction of the Mina Manama project and a new hotel at the Bahrain International Airport as part of long term plans to promote and develop the tourism industry in the island.

"For a long time now there has been a need to have an international hotel by the airport for transit passengers in particular. This will greatly facilitate accommodation needs of international passengers who have to wait for connecting flights over a day or two," said Mansour.

He added that a committee has been formed for the airport hotel. The Mina Manama project has been on the agenda for quite some time now. The ambitious scheme will include a number of leisure and recreational facilities for tourists. The project is slated to become a major attraction that will 'beautify' one of Bahrain's major and popular landmarks, Bab Al Bahrain. The projected area once served as the country's first port.

Plans for implementing the first phase of 'super beach' Sanabis beach, off King Faisal Highway, and the second phase of Al Dar islands were approved by the council. The two schemes feature among the major tourism development plans of Bahrain and are expected to boost the new industry considerably.

The Supreme Council for Tourism also reviewed the performance of the tourism industry during 1988 and discussed plans for the current year.

"The council stressed the importance of promoting and developing tourism in Bahrain in different markets. The benefits of the tourist sector in boosting unemployment and helping the national economy were highlighted," said Mansour.

Meanwhile, a 5-member delegation from Bahrain is scheduled to visit Tokyo on a promotional tour to attract Japanese tourists to the island. The delegation will comprise hoteliers and travel agents.

Group tours
A number of European tourists are set to arrive in Bahrain on short tours over the next few days. A British group arrived in the island on Saturday. A group from Finland will be visiting Bahrain for the first time on Jan 24, followed by a German group on Jan 29. The visit by the German tourists has been organised by Sunshine Tours of UNITAG group. A KLM sponsored Swedish group will be touring on Feb 9.

According to Mansour, Bahrain's participation in prestigious international travel fairs like ITB in Berlin and World Travel Market last year, generated excellent response from Europeans to come to the island.

The council also approved the country's participation in both fairs this year.

Bangladesh Association moves to new premises

THE Bangladesh Association in Bahrain has moved to new premises recently in view of increasing membership and activities over the last few years.

Speaking to Arab Times, Abdus Samad Bhuiyan, president of the association highlighted the organisation's activities and objectives for the future from the new base.

"For the first time in its history the association has finally found a permanent and proper home. The large and spacious premises will enable us to provide better services to our members. We have adequate facilities to fulfil our goals of serving our community in Bahrain."

The association will provide facilities for a wide range of sports, recreational and cultural activities. Indoor games will include darts, table tennis, carrom and cards. There are plans to set up a snack bar sometime this year. A separate wing for ladies has been allocated.

According to Bhuiyan future activities will include special 'Bangla language classes for Bangladeshi children.

He added that cultural and music classes will be conducted for children as well as adults.

The association will organise a number of social and cultural events regularly to raise funds for any emergency needs for Bangladeshis both in Bahrain and back home, as part of its commitment to serve national causes.

The association currently has about 50 members. Membership is open to all Bangladeshis.

KD1,872,350 in government subsidies

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): An official source at the Supply and Consumer Protection Department at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry said today that the total amount of government subsidy last December reached KD1,872,350.

The sum was distributed for items included in the ration card: rice, sugar, oil, powdered milk and garbage bags reached KD517,274.

nutritional products, children milk, and tea KD69,809, locally produced fresh milk KD220,979. Flour sold to local bakeries KD70,057, wheat and yellow grains

KD744,307, and building materials that include metal, steel, cement, bricks KD241,521.

The sum also included shop rents at Failandia Co-operative KD4,552.

The official source said that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had renewed in December 20,383 ration cards in addition to 494 new cards.

The amount of gold and precious metals that were stamped were as follows: 1,952 kilograms of gold and 56.8 kilograms of silver. 99 sets of precious stones and 144 ingots were examined.

Arab refined oil production may not meet demand: Wattari

THE Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC) member states are not in a financial position to be involved in direct overseas investments, according to Dr Abdul Aziz Al Wattari, Acting Secretary-General of OAPEC, who further added that Kuwait is the only exception.

In an interview with a local

daily, he said that financial resources and potential were the main factors for owning, marketing and refining facilities.

Wattari stated that in the year 2000 AD, the Arab refinery production capacity may not meet Arab demands, and estimated the need to be between 5 to 6 million barrels per day.

Labour recruitment offices illegal, says official

THE existing domestic labour recruiting offices do not practice with a commercial licence and this profession conflicts with the labour law enforced by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, according to Rashid Al Mujrin, assistant undersecretary for commercial affairs at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

He said that his ministry only

issued official commercial practice licences to public markets which fall under the ministry's control.

He added that a number of licences were withdrawn from certain shops as they failed to abide by the authorised line of business. The licences will be returned after the shopowners have rectified commercial and professional status.

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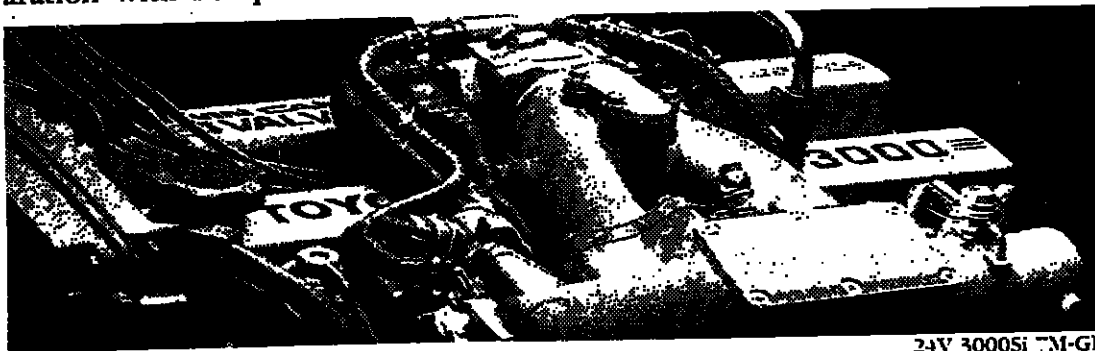
24-valve engine. While it promises unparalleled comfort and smoothness as a result of its superior suspension and solid body rigidity.

Its long, sleek body lines cut a sophisticated profile, perfectly complementing a magnificent interior equipped

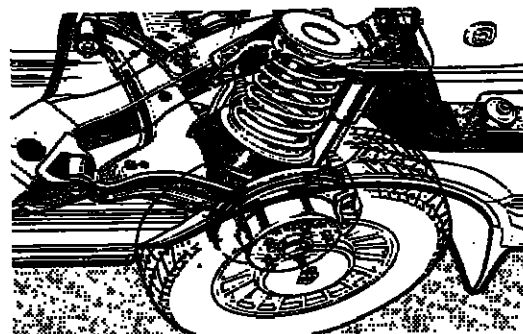
with every lavish appointment. And the Crown's cabin maintains a fresh, cool atmosphere, regardless of the temperature outside, with its super air conditioning system that's also super quiet.

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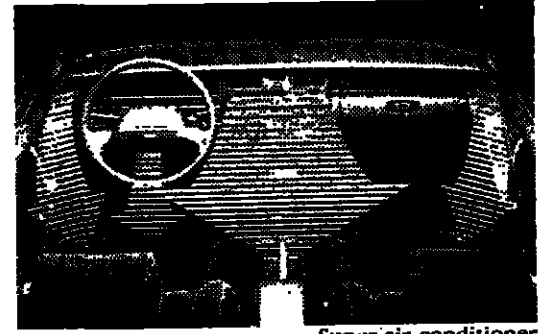
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

THREE may keep a secret, if two of them are dead — Benjamin Franklin, US statesman (1706-1790).

Nigeria to have another fling at democracy

By Naomi Wimborne

ABUJA, Nigeria, (Reuters): After almost three decades of independence scarred by civil war, five military coups and corruption in periods of civilian rule, Nigeria is edging towards a new experiment in electoral politics.

The 567-member Constituent Assembly sitting in this party-built future capital has entered the last lap of laying the basis for the military, in power since 1983, to hand over the reins of government to elected civilians by the end of 1992.

By then Abuja should, funds permitting, have risen from the parched and rocky savannah in the geographical centre of the country as a symbol of unity between religions, regions and ethnic groups whose quarrels have derailed all previous attempts at stable governments.

Constitution

The assembly members, 450 elected by local councillors and 117 nominated by government, are working under the hopeful but often sceptical eyes of around 100 million Nigerians to perfect a new draft constitution for approval by President Ibrahim Babangida's Armed Forces Ruling Council by the end of March.

Later this year a five-year-old ban on party politics is due to be lifted and two approved political parties registered to take part in local government elections in December.

Elected legislatures should take over on the 21 states of the federation in 1990, sharing power with a military national government while a census is conducted in 1991.

Military disengagement is tabled to follow voting for a two chamber National Assembly and the presidency in 1992.

Pitfalls await every phase of the transition process. The task of grafting a man-made modern political system onto a diverse nation with no unified political tradition is enormous.

"We must create a new set of values, a new set of political attitudes or political culture aimed at ushering in a new social order," said Babangida putting the programme to the nation in July, 1987.

He said blatant electoral violations had disenfranchised the people under the first civilian republic of 1960-66, toppled by the military who presided over

the 1967-70 war against secessionist Biafra and the following oil boom years.

As a swift handover to civilians in 1979 ushered in the second republic which, Babangida said, "improved on the vices of... the first republic... implanting more political violence into our already adulterated political culture."

This time, he said, the military would closely supervise a gradual process of learning role and institutional adjustment.

He assigned a major role in that process to a body known as Mamas, the directorate of mass mobilisation, set up in September 1987 to launch a grass-roots crusade for political enlightenment aimed mainly at persuading poor people not to sell their votes to unscrupulous power-seekers.

"People see government as the only good business in Nigeria," said one Constituent Assembly member, identifying a deeply-rooted attitude reinforced by the country's once-great oil wealth.

Many Nigerians take it for granted that holders of public office will reap rewards in the form of official contracts and other material benefits and pass these down to their friends and extended families.

"There is no magic wand to get rid of corruption," said Anthony Anigololu, the retired Supreme Court judge who chairs the Constituent Assembly.

"But I believe people are tired of it and that education will eliminate the evil," he said.

New rules provide for government funding for the parties and a ceiling on election campaign spending.

Re-election

Anyone switching party allegiance, a common practice in the past, will have to face re-election or lose office.

But Ango Abdullahi, an elected member and former university vice-chancellor who chaired one of the assembly's 23 committees, said money would continue to play a role.

"Restrictions on expenditure by parties and candidates are purely theoretical. You can discount them as quite impracticable," he said.

He was, however, hopeful that electoral rules requiring a successful presidential candidate to win a quarter of the votes in two thirds of the 21 states would ensure fair regional representation.

Pinochet begins last year of supreme power

By Richard Waddington

SANTIAGO, (Reuters): Augusto Pinochet, Chile's unrivalled ruler for the past 15 years, has begun his last full year of supreme power, but his opponents say the country's return to full democracy is not yet assured.

By the end of 1989 Chileans will have gone to the polls to elect a civilian successor to the fiercely anti-communist general, whose dreams of continuing in power were shattered in a plebiscite in October.

The result of the ballot, in which Chile's seven million voters opted by 55 to 43 per cent against prolonging his rule for eight more years, means Pinochet must call competitive presidential and congressional elections on Dec 14.

Few Chileans doubt the elections will be held and that Pinochet will have to honour his pledge to hand over power on March 11, 1990.

Elections

"I have not the slightest doubt that there will be elections in 1989," Gonzalo Eguiguren, a leading member of the conservative National Renovation Party, told Reuters.

Pinochet, 73, who has outlasted all other Latin American military rulers except Paraguay's General Alfredo Stroessner, cannot stand in the election unless the constitution is changed.

Even right-wing political parties, which backed his bid in the plebiscite, have rejected any such move.

For the general's opponents, however, the transfer of the presidency from Pinochet will not mean an end to the military's political power. They say the country's constitution gives the armed forces excessive right to interfere in political affairs.

Pinochet, who is also head of the Army, is guaranteed his military command for eight more years, if he wishes.

Liability limited to \$75,000 per passenger in case of a crash

Challenge to a 60-year-old international treaty

By Robert Roth

NEW YORK, (UPI): Lawyers representing the loved ones of those who died in the sabotage of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, plan to challenge a 60-year-old international treaty that limits airline liability to \$75,000 per passenger.

Two-hundred and forty-three people died in the Dec 21 crash that has been linked to a bomb blast in a luggage hold. The flight was bound from London to New York.

Terrorists have claimed responsibility.

"I think it is an outrage that the United States is a party to this absurd treaty. It is an utter outrage. It is anachronistic and archaic and the State Department ought to answer to the families of these people," said Lee Kreindler, an attorney specialising in air crash litigation who has been retained by the families of 12 passengers.

The treaty and its subsequent modifications are part of a complicated area of law.

Victims of domestic air crashes, whose final destination was within the United States and who did not travel to another country on the same ticket, are not subject to the international treaty — meaning relatives may recover as much in damages as a court will allow. They need only prove simple negligence.

When Delta Airlines Flight 191 crashed at the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport on Aug 2, 1985, among the 133 passengers killed

was Philip D. Estridge, the founder of IBM's personal computer division. Estridge and his wife, Mary Ann had begun their trip in Fort Lauderdale and had no international stopovers, so the Warsaw limits did not apply. Kreindler brought suit on behalf of the couple's three daughters and received a judgement of \$7,975,000, which Delta is appealing.

But faced with the \$75,000 limit in the Pan Am case, Kreindler and other plaintiffs' lawyers have only one option — to argue that the case is an exception to the Warsaw convention.

There are said to be but two exceptions possible in the Pan Am disaster.

Appeal

First, if the airline failed to deliver a ticket to the passenger or delivered a defective ticket. Airlines are required to print on tickets a notice advising passengers of the limitations of liability under the treaty. That notice is required to be in 10-point type (newspaper columns are usually in 8-1/2 point) and if the letters are smaller the ticket may be considered defective.

Strange as it may seem, suits have been won on that issue. New York attorney Kenneth Nolan said that after the 1980 crash of a Lot Polish airliner carrying 14 boxes of the Amateur Athletic Union he established that the tickets were in the wrong type size. That was enough to circumvent the liability limits of the convention and "they settled for six and seven-figure sums."

The 10-point type issue has

been appealed to the US Supreme Court in the case of Korean Airlines Flight 007 which was shot down over the Soviet Union on Sept 1, 1983, killing 269 people.

The lawyers have not yet examined the tickets from Flight 103.

The second exception to the treaty is if it can be proven that the airline acted with "willful misconduct."

What constitutes willful misconduct is hotly debated by lawyers.

John J. Martin defends airlines in these kinds of cases and says that from what he's learned he doesn't believe willful misconduct can be established. "What did they do that was willful?" he asks.

According to Martin, "the courts have said that the proof (of willful misconduct) must be tantamount to an attempt to commit suicide on the part of the crew... that they knew the consequence and deliberately took it."

Stanley M. Chesley of Cincinnati, another plaintiffs' lawyer, with nine Pan Am Flight 103 cases, disagrees.

Chesley said the Airline Pilots Association has been demanding improved security for seven years. He adds that the US embassy in Helsinki received a call on Dec 5 warning that a Pan Am flight from Frankfurt to New York would be bombed. (Another plane with the same flight number brought passengers and baggage to the plane which took off from London.)

Considering those two points, he feels that Pan Am can be charged with willful misconduct on two grounds: their alleged "failure to inspect baggage and interrogate passengers," and the airline's "failure to warn the passengers that there had in fact been a bomb threat."

Frank Granito, a lawyer in the same firm as Nolan, said he would concentrate on "the failure to inform passengers (issue) so that they could take the same self-protective measures that were taken by embassy personnel in Moscow, which was to choose to fly another airline."

The "high-level decision not to tell the public is willful misconduct," he said.

All of the plaintiffs' lawyers interviewed were in agreement in calling for the US government to denounce the treaty. Nolan, the airline attorney, acknowledged that, "this could be a case that will point up the limitations of the convention and the need for better treatment for Americans."

Pan Am is represented by James Shaughnessy, who could not be reached for comment.

Convention

The Warsaw Convention, which took effect in 1929 to encourage the development of the aviation industry worldwide, has been signed by 122 countries according to a spokesman for the International Civil Aviation Organisation in Montreal. It applies only to passengers since crew members are covered by worker's compensation.

Kreindler said the airline was

"absolutely liable" for the \$75,000 in damages, meaning that to collect that sum the plaintiff is not required to prove anything more than the fact that his relative was a passenger and was killed.

Some lawyers have said that it is a practice of airline insurers to offer to pay relatives that amount following a crash providing they sign a release agreeing not to sue.

Pan Am is insured by US Aircraft Insurance Group. Senior Vice-President Robert Alpert declared as "absolutely untrue" a published report that his firm had offered or suggested to any relatives of Flight 103 victims that they settle their claims.

Transferred

He said they did offer to pay for all funeral expenses and all reasonable expenses incurred by family members such as transportation and lodging and that no one would be required to sign a release to obtain these funds. He added that his company had compiled a list of the victims' next of kin and their representatives. Once the insurers complete their investigation of the crash they will make a decision about liability and let the families know by letter.

Although many attorneys are filing lawsuits in different courts around the country, there will not be a multitude of different cases being tried simultaneously.

The procedure, Kreindler explained, is that each case is initially transferred to a federal court in the district where it was

filed. Then a panel of US district judges meets and consolidates all the cases for a single trial in federal court, which he said will likely be in New York City.

A plaintiffs' committee appointed by the presiding judge with one or two lawyers acting as lead counsel.

After the question of whether an exception will be made to the Warsaw Convention is decided and appealed, then separate damage trials can be ordered for individual plaintiffs.

These trials would take place in state or federal court in the areas where the passenger lived or filed suit. Damage statutes, ceiling and grounds for damages vary state by state, so the amount passengers eventually receive in court could vary by millions of dollars, depending on their age, origin, their age, potential earnings loss and dependents.

Attorneys in such cases typically receive one-third of whatever is recovered, after their expenses have been deducted. An attorney is representing more than one victim in the same plane crash, he might reduce the fee for each client.

Trial

It can take anywhere from six months to three years for such disaster cases to be settled in court. A trial just began in the Nov 15, 1987 crash of a Continental Airlines jet at Stapleton Airport in Denver.

While waiting for the legal gears to finish grinding, some relatives may nevertheless be able to receive money through other means.

Bush recognizes tough political realities he faces

By Norman D. Sandler

WASHINGTON, (UPI): Behind flowery talk of new breezes and offered hands, George Bush not only laid out the values that will guide his presidency on Friday, but recognized the tough political realities that face his new administration.

In a 21-minute inaugural address crafted with help from former White House wordsmith Peggy Noonan, Bush offered the American people both lofty rhetoric and frank admissions of what will be needed to turn hopes into achievements.

Subordinate

As promised, his speech provided clues to the approach he will take as President, but not his precise agenda. There were no dramatic initiatives or detailed insight into how he will attack the myriad problems that await him.

His campaign vision of "a kinder, gentler nation" was there, as was his call for "a new engagement in the lives of others — a new activism, hands-on and involved, that gets the job done."

So too did Bush deliver a veiled appeal to Iran to secure the release of American hostages in Lebanon, pledged to "continue

the new closeness with the Soviet Union" and vowed in connection with the war on drugs that "this scourge will stop."

But in a speech that climaxed his transformation from subordinate vice-president to a gracious winner of a rough-and-tumble election and political healer, he went to great lengths to reach out to Congress.

With the House and Senate both controlled by Democrats, he may have had little choice. The politics of confrontation practiced by the ideologies of the Reagan revolution never were a vogue within the pragmatic Bush crowd.

However, Bush went a step beyond traditional appeals for bipartisanship — sometimes forgotten long before the political honeymoon is over — to promote co-operation forced on him by the partisan lineup on Capitol Hill and the press of such national concerns as the deficit and illegal drugs.

"A new breeze is blowing," he said, "and the old bipartisanship must be made new again."

Bush, who soon will send Congress a set of proposed revisions to the fiscal 1990 budget submitted on Jan 9 by the Reagan administration, offered a blunt

admission that pressure to bring the deficit under control will limit the availability of funds to attack such social ills as homelessness, crime and drug abuse.

At the same time, with the deficit at the top of his domestic agenda, he appealed to the congressional leaders for co-operation to "produce a budget on which this nation could live."

"Let us negotiate soon and hard. But in the end, let us produce," he said. "The American people await action. They didn't send us here to be stuck. They sent us to rise above the merely partisan. In capital things, unity, and this, my friends, is crucial."

On the eve of his inauguration, Bush said his speech would be "just a broad appeal for the American people to pitch in and help." By necessity as much as choice, he directed that message not only at the American people but Congress.

Deficits

In the end, it will be up not to his "thousand points of light" but to the administration and Congress to come to grips with the huge deficits that cast a shadow over the health of the economy and his domestic and foreign policies.



Libyan chemical plant jars US-German relations

By Carol J. Williams

BONN, West Germany, (AP): Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government is mired in the biggest controversy of his six-year leadership over allegations that West German companies helped Libya build a chemical plant that allegedly can produce poison gas.

Even members of Kohl's Christian Democratic Union say privately he has bungled the issue and threatened the conservative party's popularity by dodging the question of whether he or his cabinet members ignored early reports of a German hand in the Libyan project.

Kohl's chief aide is to appear before parliament on Wednesday to disclose new information about US accusations that West German firms took part in the Libyan project by selling materials in violation of export controls.

West Germany's opposition Social Democratic Party, demanding the "whole truth" be told, accused Kohl of inflicting lasting damage to the nation's image and to relations with the United States. The left-wing Greens Party called on the chancellor to resign.

Controversy

"We're making complete fools of ourselves," commented a government official from the Christian Democrats, speaking on condition of anonymity. "The chancellor must extricate the government from this controversy before the damage becomes irreparable."

Kohl has been silent on the subject since last Thursday, when he acknowledged during a TV interview there were "growing indications" of West German involvement in the Libyan affair.

After several denials of government involvement, Kohl's spokesman, Friedhelm Ost, refused to say on Tuesday whether Bonn now accepts US claims that the plant near Tripoli is capable of producing chemical weapons.

"We have no new information on this," Ost told reporters.

But on Monday, Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg told reporters the government now has "concrete indications" and intelligence reports that make clear the plant in Rabta, southeast of the Libyan capital, can produce chemical weapons.

"We must assume that the factory is a facility in which poison gas can be produced," Stoltenberg said at a news conference.

Information

Finance Ministry spokesman Karl-Heinz von Den Driesch, sitting three seats away from Ost at the conference, said Stoltenberg had information from a trip to the United States last week that had not been seen by officials in Bonn.

Ost said the government's position would be explained on Wednesday, when the chancellor's chief of staff, Wolfgang Schauble, informs the Bundestag about what it knows of West German involvement.

businesses have been involved, including one company owned by the federal government.

National newspapers have been critical of Kohl's handling of the affair, describing the government as defensive in its stubborn refrain that it has collected no evidence that would justify criminal charges against any German companies.

Control

Munich's Sueddeutsche Zeitung commented on Tuesday that Kohl had lost political control of the affair by evading action and suggested the government at least ask federal prosecutors to decide if charges are in order.

Social Democratic Party leader Hans-Jochen Vogel accused Kohl of personal responsibility for a situation in which "the German people and the world public have long been deceived, that German-American relations have been seriously hampered and that West Germany has been exposed to worldwide suspicion of calling publicly for a ban on chemical weapons while secretly fostering their production."

Learn

Petra Kelly, leader of the Greens Party's parliamentary delegation, demanded that Kohl resign over the government's mishandling of the issue.

Ost told reporters in early January that the government learned of US claims that West German companies helped build the Libyan plant during Kohl's Nov 15 visit to Washington.

Education is South Korea's next challenge

abolished perhaps the harshest of all controls — a system in which teachers were forced to fail students to maintain a quota on numbers of graduates.

Many South Koreans saw this as a means to give the government power to expel radical students.

Officials and educators say relaxing government control will have a good effect but students, teachers and parents will still face problems.

The first stumbling block is the rigid multiple-choice national entrance exam. From primary school onwards, teaching is devoted to training students to get a good score. Teenagers study up to 15 hours a day, foregoing play and relaxation.

"Students are used to being trained to pick up the right answer among several choices. We need more analysis," said Kim Sung-Dohng, director of the University Education Division at the Ministry of Education.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1517 — Turkish troops take Cairo, Egypt.
- 1528 — England and France declare war on Holy Roman Emperor Charles V.
- 1655 — Oliver Cromwell dissolves Britain's Parliament.
- 1760 — French are defeated by British under Eyre Coote at Wandewash, India.
- 1771 — Spain agrees to cede Falkland Islands to Britain.
- 1811 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte annexes Oldenburg and alienates Russia's Tsar Alexander.
- 1879 — About 4,000 heavily armed Zulu warriors assault British troops in Battle of Rorke's Drift (South Africa), where 139 soldiers repel attacks for almost 12 hours.
- 1905 — "Bloody Sunday" in St. Petersburg, Russia, when workers in revolt are fired upon by Cossacks and Imperial Army troops.
- 1944 — Allied forces begin landings at Anzio in Italy in World War II.
- 1957 — Israeli forces complete withdrawal from Sinai peninsula, but remain in Gaza Strip.
- 1966 — In Nigeria, it is disclosed that Prime Minister Abubakar Tafawa Balewa is dead, apparently slain in coup a week earlier.
- 1968 — US B-52 bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs plunges into Greenland Bay, and Washington says there is no danger of explosion because bombs were unarmed.
- 1986 — Three Sikhs are convicted of 1984 assassination of India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and are sentenced to death.
- 1988 — President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl celebrate 25th anniversary of Franco-German friendship.



A group of Burmese students give thumbs-up signs when they met with visiting foreign journalists in Taungtha. (Reuters wirephoto)

Junta blames political parties for unrest

No hope for early polls in Burma

RANGOON, Jan 21, (AP): Burma's military government, which brutally repressed a nationwide uprising, said that lawlessness and the proliferation of political parties were preventing democratic elections. Official sources said polling might not take place in 1989.

"We need peace and tranquility in the country. If there is no law and order, how can we have elections?" said Brig Gen Khin Nyunt, ranked No 2 in a council that has ruled Burma since the military coup last Sept 18.

Students

Khin Nyunt also indicated that schools would not be reopened, a curfew lifted or opposition parties allowed access to mass media in the near future. "Further opening will come slowly," he said.

But at a press conference he repeatedly denied the government had arrested, tortured or executed student activists who had returned from border areas after fleeing military repression.

The London-based human

rights group Amnesty International recently claimed that some students returning from the Thai-Burma border had been arrested while the US State Department said it had "credible reports" that some returnees had been executed.

Rangoon says about 2,000 students and others who participated in pro-democracy demonstrations last year have returned home, among them 320 repatriated under a Thai government-sponsored programme.

Shunned by the international community, including vital former aid donors Japan and West Germany, the military government has attempted to improve its tarnished human rights image.

The press conference yesterday came at the end of an unprecedented, three-day trip arranged for 46 foreign correspondents who were flown to four cities to interview nearly 150 repatriated students and some of their parents.

Burmese officials could not recall such a large foreign press

presence in the country — which for the past quarter century has followed an isolationist course — since the granting of independence from Great Britain in 1948.

Speaking with military and civilian authorities present, most of the students denied knowledge of any arrests or lengthy interrogations although a few said they knew of some returning activists who were detained.

Denial

Among students the government assembled for the journalists in the city of Taungtha were Myo Win Htun and Kyi Moe, whom Amnesty had said were feared arrested. Although they denied being detained, both expressed some criticism of the government.

Myo Win Htun also charged that Thai authorities had exerted "psychological pressure" on him and some colleagues to return to Burma from a special repatriation centre. He said he was forced to dig cesspools and fell trees and went on a hunger strike to protest his repatriation.

Scores of smugglers executed in Iran

Khomeini calls for swift justice

ATHENS, Jan 21, (Agencies): Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini has ordered his judiciary to cut through bureaucracy and hand down "swift justice" to people charged with serious crime, the Islamic Republic News Agency said.

Chief Justice Abdul Karim Ardebili "warned thugs, hostage-takers, rapists...armed robbers" and drug traffickers they could "no longer escape justice" by taking advantage of "inherent delays in the court system," IRNA said.

Speaking at Friday prayer ceremonies in Tehran, Ardebili said: "I warn them that this martyr-rearing nation is impatient" and Khomeini "will not allow (delays) any more."

"Don't even think you would go to prison for two years if you commit an atrocity," the news agency, monitored in Athens, quoted him as saying.

"You must know that between committing a crime and your execution there will be only a difference of ten days — maximum," he said.

Ardebili did not say when Khomeini issued the new order,

but told the worshippers the judicial authorities had been informed of a special committee "set up to use the new powers."

Apparently addressing the authorities, he said: "If a serious crime has taken place... just make one phone call."

IRNA said the new powers would enable Iran's judiciary to settle "within days" cases of serious crime which in the past took "years to solve."

New laws

New laws carrying the death penalty for anyone found with even small amounts of illegal drugs took effect in Iran today amid a crackdown in which scores of convicted smugglers already have been executed.

The anti-narcotics laws make the death sentence mandatory for men and women convicted of possessing 30 grams (just over one ounce) of heroin, codeine or morphine, or smuggling 5 kilograms (11 pounds) of opium or hashish.

The crackdown is the biggest since a large-scale roundup of drug users and pushers in the early days of the Islamic revolution.

Hundreds of people were

executed, often on flimsy evidence, by Iran's notorious "hanging judge," Sadeq Khalkhali. Later, his excesses forced Ayatollah Khomeini to rein him in.

The new campaign followed the Aug 20 cease-fire with Iraq that halted fighting in the 8-year-old Gulf war and a public outcry against lawlessness, official corruption and an alarming surge in drug abuse that was blamed on hardship caused by the conflict.

Another factor cited was Iran's religious ban on alcohol, worsening unemployment and the breakdown of political control in the revolution's early days.

Ardebili, blamed the narcotics problem on Tehran's enemies.

Blame

"The problem... is a political one," he said recently. "The superpowers, just as they fought the Islamic revolution on the battlefield and in the economic field... use narcotics as one method to battle with the people... and taint the revolution."

Official figures on drug abuse in Iran are not available. But

Parliament Speaker Mashehi Rafsanjani recently indicated the scale of the crisis by referring to "the devastating problem of drug abuse... a blight that has ruined some of our young people."

Even before the new law came into force, Iranian authorities had rounded up more than 1,000 suspected smugglers and pushers, running them through Islamic tribunals and hanging them as soon as they were found guilty.

On Jan 7, 19 convicted smugglers were hanged or executed by firing squads. They were interviewed on state television before they were executed.

Tehran's radical Jomhuri Islami daily hailed the hangings as "a landmark on the path to eradicating narcotics."

But nine days later, Iran's official media said 56 were executed in one day in various cities in a chilling display of Tehran's determination to eliminate the drug plague.

Jomhuri Islami bluntly urged in an editorial that authorities "put an end to the disgraceful life of a few who take joy in ruining a nation only to fill their pockets."

Iranians urged to help write a true history

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Jan 21, (AP): The Islamic revolution documents centre today urged Iranians to help write a "true" history of the Islamic revolution by sending in information and memoirs of the demonstrations, street clashes, mass killings and jail tortures which culminated in the 1979 revolution.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Nicosia, said that the centre had asked people for their recollections or information about the government of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi and his "conspiracies with the great satan, America, to crush Islam in Iran."

In addition, the centre asked for information about other suspicious groups and their conspiracies. These include Mujahedeen Khalq, or people's holy warriors, the largest Iranian opposition group which has been waging an underground war against Iran from its bases in Iraq, the radio said.

Pictures

The centre also asked for pictures and memoirs of those who died during the street clashes and demonstrations which led to the downfall of the Shah in February 1979, the radio said.

Information about post-revolutionary Iran was also requested by the centre, including information and recollections of the "American conspiracies" in the eight-year Iran-Iraq war, the radio said.

Ayatollah Khomeini rose to power on a surge of anti-American, pro-Islamic sentiment which engulfed Iran a decade ago.

Ever since, Iran has regarded the West with deep-rooted suspicion, and has made anti-Americanism a Redrock of its domestic and foreign policy.

Next month, the Islamic republic will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the revolution.

Massage parlours flourishing in China

HONG KONG, Jan 21, (AP): Women in southern China have written to a Canton newspaper to urge the eradication of massage parlours that attract high-ranking cadres as well as ordinary folks with sexual services, a Hong Kong daily reported.

The letter to the Southern Daily (Nanfang Ribao) newspaper in Canton claimed visiting massage parlours had surpassed dining as the most popular form of entertainment among businessmen in the Huiyang district of Guangdong, a county, 100 kilometres northeast of Hong Kong. News of the letter was reported in Hong Kong's Ming Pao newspaper.

Senior government cadres spent public money at the rate of up to 50 yuan (\$13.40) per hour at the parlours, which offered prostitutes to customers, said the letter to the Southern Daily, a newspaper based in the nearby provincial capital of Canton.

Although the average monthly salary of an urban Chinese worker is 100 yuan (\$26.9), individuals can earn much more in the prosperous region around Canton. And many ordinary workers "run to the massage parlours for some fun as soon as they get a little money," the Hong Kong newspaper report said.

Popularity

The popularity of massage parlours is breaking up marriages and causing overseas Chinese visiting the region to complain to police and local news media of decadence, the report said. The report did not say how many massage parlours operate in the Huiyang area, nor did it mention any police action in response to the allegations.

According to bank officials, the massages can become rich overnight, the newspaper said, with some depositing thousands or tens of thousands of yuan every few days.

The Japanese government, in a friendly overture to Pyongyang, issued a policy statement declaring Tokyo was ready for talks with North Korea with no preconditions.

"We are prepared to enter into any discussions of any type with North Korea on the entire range of pending (bilateral) issues, with no preconditions whatsoever," Hiroshi Tanaka, director of the Foreign Ministry's Northeast Asia division, said in releasing a paper outlining Japan's policy toward the Korean peninsula.

There was no change, however, in Japan's position of maintaining and promoting friendly and co-operative ties with South Korea, a capitalist country with which Tokyo shares the values of freedom and democracy, the paper said.

172 killed in air crashes in China in 1988

BEIJING, Jan 21, (AP): Chinese airlines were involved in five major accidents last year, killing 172 people, and safety improvements must be made, the nation's leading newspaper said today.

Planes from the Civil Aviation Administration of China crashed four times, killing 126 people. Another crash involved a local tourist plane and killed 46 people.

In addition, one plane was hijacked, said the report in the People's Daily newspaper (Renmin Ribao). The article did not give details on the crashes, but the state-run press reported three major air disasters last year.

The largest death toll occurred in January, when a civil aviation passenger plane crashed near Changting in Sichuan province, leaving 108 dead.

Forty-six people were killed when a sightseeing plane crashed into a hotel in Shanxi province and exploded last August.

Another seven people were killed when a CACC flight from Canton crashed at Hong Kong's international airport.

Test-tube quins, quads born same day

SYDNEY, Jan 21, (AP): Test-tube quins and quads, test-tube quadruplets were born on the same day at the same hospital in Western Australia.

The quintuplets — four girls and one boy — were delivered by Caesarean section today at the King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women in Perth.

The quintuplets, conceived by in-vitro fertilisation (IVF), are the first such births in Australia. IVF quadruplets — three boys and a girl — were born at the same time and at the same hospital.

"We're now reducing the number of embryos we transfer, knowing that there is a consistently high pregnancy rate with these procedures and techniques," said John Yovich, medical director of Perth's Fivet Medical Centre, where the IVF procedure was carried out.

All nine babies were doing well in the hospital's intensive care unit, a King Edward spokesman said.

N. Korean delegation arrives in Japan

TOKYO, Jan 21, (AP): For the first time since 1948, North Korea sent a delegation from its ruling party to visit Japan, another sign of improving relations between the two nations.

A four-member delegation of the North Korean Workers' Party arrived this afternoon to attend a national convention of the Japan Socialist Party beginning next week.

Japan has no diplomatic relations with North Korea, but the Japanese government displayed a significant gesture of goodwill by allowing the delegation into the country. In the past, no North Korean visitors have been allowed to engage in any political activity in Japan.

The North Korean delegation, led by Kim Yang Kon, a deputy department chief of the party's powerful central committee, was invited by the Japan Socialist Party, the nation's largest opposition party.

The Japanese party said the North Koreans will attend the

national convention on Monday, and have a series of meetings with party chairwoman Takako Doi and other senior party members during a weeklong stay in Tokyo.

The Japanese government, in a friendly overture to Pyongyang, issued a policy statement declaring Tokyo was ready for talks with North Korea with no preconditions.

"We are prepared to enter into any discussions of any type with North Korea on the entire range of pending (bilateral) issues, with no preconditions whatsoever," Hiroshi Tanaka, director of the Foreign Ministry's Northeast Asia division, said in releasing a paper outlining Japan's policy toward the Korean peninsula.

There was no change, however, in Japan's position of maintaining and promoting friendly and co-operative ties with South Korea, a capitalist country with which Tokyo shares the values of freedom and democracy, the paper said.

The Japanese party said the North Koreans will attend the

Nerve gas suspect was also carrying secret documents

NEWARK, N.J., Jan 21, (Agencies): A Korean-born arms dealer charged last week with trying to buy deadly nerve gas bombs had classified US government documents in his possession, a prosecutor told a federal court.

Assistant prosecutor Anne Singer said investigators found classified and confidential documents from the Pentagon's joint electronics warfare command in the Summit, New Jersey, office of the suspect, J.W. Yun.

Yun is charged with trying to buy deadly Sarin nerve gas bombs and Tow and Stinger missiles from undercover agents.

Prosecutors said he planned to ship them to several countries. They said he was heard boasting that one of the countries was Iran.

Contents

Singer and US customs agent Frank Ventura, who testified about the documents, also declined to discuss their contents, saying it was not relevant to the hearing in which Yun, 48 of Short Hills, New Jersey, sought release on \$2 million bail set Tuesday by US magistrate Ronald Hedges.

A grand jury later issued a two-count indictment against Yun and a Briton, who was named as a co-conspirator in the alleged nerve gas exportation



J.W. Yun

scheme. Ventura said military intelligence officials identified the documents as coming from the "joint electronics warfare command." Officials did not explain the nature of the command.

Assistant US attorney Anne Singer disclosed existence of the documents after Yun's attorney, Stephen Dratch, came to court to say his client was able to meet the \$2-million bail figure set by Hedges.

Singer said Yun's possession of the documents increased the risk that he would flee because he may have ties with foreign governments that would have a vested interest in keeping Yun from standing trial.

Hedges asked Singer if the documents indicated espionage. Singer declined comment.

UK accused of racism

Britain deports Sri Lankan

COLOMBO, Jan 21, (AP): A Sri Lankan man deported from Britain after a two-year battle for asylum returned home today and accused the British government of racism.

For two years, Viraj Mendis had sought asylum by hiding in an English church. His fight ended yesterday when British officials put him on an Air Lanka flight back to his Indian Ocean island.

"One thing is I am happy to be back in my homeland, but I am angry of being deported by the racist British government," the 32-year-old Mendis told reporters when he arrived.

He was escorted by two British immigration officers, a British policeman and the Rev. Henry West, an Anglican priest who described himself as a "friend accompanying Viraj."

Mendis said he feared persecution or death if he returned to Sri Lanka, which is torn by ethnic violence between guerrillas of the majority Sinhalese ethnic group and the minority Tamils. Nearly 10,000 people have died in five years of fighting.

Attacks

Foreign Ministry Secretary W.T. Jayasinghe said, "I don't think anything is going to happen to Mendis."

Meanwhile, militant Tamils yesterday ambushed a Sri Lankan Army convoy in the north-west province, killing seven people, police officials said.

Among the victims were a Lankan Army officer, five sol-

diers and a Tamil civilian, police said. Under briefing rules, police officials conducting daily briefings cannot be identified.

The killings raise to 15 the number of those killed by Tamil rebels over 24 hours, police said.

At least six Indian soldiers of the peace keeping force and two militant Tamils were killed in two separate attacks in the northern Jaffna peninsula late Thursday, the officials said. The Indian embassy confirmed the killings.

Police blamed the attacks on the most militant Tamil rebels, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The Tigers have called for a boycott of the Feb 15 national elections.

Police

A spokesman for the Indian embassy, who also cannot be identified under briefing rules, said: "There seems to be an upsurge of violence by the rebels" following the call for an election boycott.

An Indian Army officer and five soldiers were killed in attacks by Tamil rebels in Chundikkulam village, about 230 kilometres north of Colombo.

Indian soldiers came in to supervise an arms surrender by the Tamils but became involved in military operations when the largest militant group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, reneged on the accord.

They were sent under terms of an accord signed in July 1987 by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene.

Brunei meeting discusses Kampuchean crisis

ASEAN supports Sihanouk's leadership

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, Brunei, Jan 21, (AP): Foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations said today that former Kampuchean head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk should lead any future government in Kampuchea.

"(The foreign ministers) reaffirmed their view on a future government in (Kampuchea) that is sovereign, independent, neutral and non-aligned under the leadership of Prince Norodom Sihanouk," said the joint statement.

The statement was issued after a one-day meeting of foreign ministers from the association's six member states — Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore.

It said the foreign ministers expressed hope that intensified diplomatic efforts would lead to a "comprehensive and durable political solution" to the Kampuchean civil war.

The statement added that the ministers "reaffirmed their

determination to work for the interests of the Kampuchean people by continuing co-operation with the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea."

Coalition

The coalition, recognised by the United Nations as the legitimate Kampuchean government, is made up of three rebel factions fighting Vietnamese troops and the current government in Phnom Penh, installed by Vietnam 10 years ago.

The statement said the foreign ministers agreed that a second round of Kampuchean peace talks, brokered by the regional association, should be held in Jakarta, Indonesia, as planned on Feb 19-21. The first meeting was held last July and was attended by ASEAN nations, Laos, Vietnam and representatives of the rebel coalition.

"They were of the view that in order to facilitate the reaching of a comprehensive political solution, the (Jakarta) process could

eventually be expanded to include extra-regional countries concerned," the statement said, apparently referring to the Soviet Union, which backs Vietnam, and China, which backs the Kampuchean rebels.

Countries

Brunei's foreign minister, who chaired the meeting, told reporters the conference did not name the "extra-regional" countries. But Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar and Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila told reporters the countries could include the Soviet Union and China.

China said earlier this week that it had begun talks with Vietnamese officials in Beijing on ending the Kampuchean conflict, the first face-to-face meeting of high-level officials in nine years.

Moscow also has said it would be willing to hold direct talks with Sihanouk, by far the most prominent leader within the coalition.

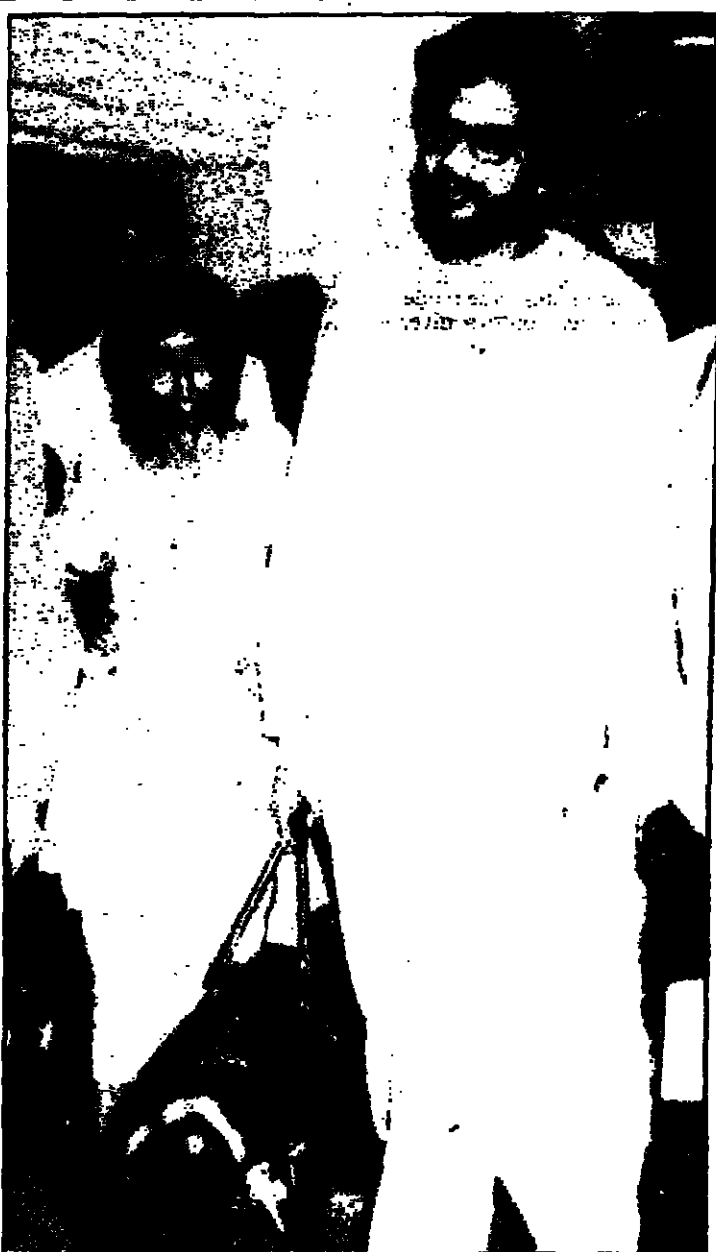
Hanoi has said it has gradually reduced its forces in Kampuchea to 50,000 men and will withdraw them by September if a political settlement is reached. Western diplomats however estimate the number at 70,000 to 90,000.

Philippine Foreign Minister Raul Manglapus also expressed optimism a settlement will be reached this year. "There are points of diversion on the positions of ASEAN and Vietnam on the one hand, and the Soviet Union and China on the other," he said. "We are anxious to arrive at definitions common for all."

Surprise visit

SANAA, Jan 21, (Reuters): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has begun a surprise trip to North Yemen, his first ever, North Yemen's Saba news agency said today.

Saba did not give the purpose of the visit by Hussein, who was met at the airport by President Ali Abdullah Saleh.



Viraj Mendis (right), who was deported from Britain, walks through the Colombo airport lounge. (Reuters wirephoto)

GOING PLACES

East meets West
at Indian show

EAST meets West, an ambitious mixture of Indian classical dance and ballet was one of the main attractions of an Indian variety show held at the IAC on Friday.

Children took an active part in the Bharati Kalai Mandram's variety show held to celebrate Nehru Centenary and Pongal, the harvest festival. The emphasis at the variety show was on folk culture and traditional music.

Carnatic music flowed as the Kalai Mandram's performers danced, recreating the aura of villages and folk culture of Tamil Nadu. More than 70 children, in addition to 20 adults, took part in a variety of

items including the traditional Koragam, a dance performed during Pongal, and a fisherman's dance called the "the beach dance".

A comedy-cum-suspense drama entitled "Playo Intilica" by Sundar and Usha Kaushik was one of the highlights of the show, attended by over 800 Indians.

Indian Ambassador N.N. Jha was the chief guest; D.A. Sivagnanam presided and Raghu Raman proposed a vote of thanks.

The Kalai Mandram, a Tamil-speaking group, has held several cultural shows over the years.



The East meets West as ballerinas and classical dancers take to the stage.

BBC Highlights

Story of Pioneers

The Lovers of Viorne
Who killed Marie-Therese Bousquet? Was it Pierre or Claire, cousin of the deaf and dumb victim? Sir Anthony Quayle and Dame Peggy Ashcroft star in the English version of the play by Marguerite Duras. (Jan 22, 1501 hrs)

They Made Our World
Sir Francis Bacon died of pneumonia after stuffing a chicken with snow in one of his experiments. He was the 17th Century Lord Chancellor who had a grand scheme for reorganising the whole world of learning and his is the first story in a new series of 26 programmes which looks at some of the scientists, technologists and pioneers whose work has shaped the world he known

today. (Jan 25, 1515 hrs; Jan 26, 0930 hrs)

The War of the Worlds
H.G. Wells classic science-fiction story is set in 1902 when the Martians invade rural Britain. Actor Simon Ward reads the first of eight instalments. (Jan 23, 0730 hrs; repeat 1915 hrs)

Gypsies
A large number of gypsies throughout Europe share a language and many traditions. But they also share the experience of hostility of many of the communities they live in. This programme recalls some of the gypsies darkest moments and celebrates some of their musical and aural traditions. (Jan 22, 1915 hrs; Jan 23, 1030 hrs)



A folk dance number.

Maharashtrian group
celebrates festival

THE Maharashtra Mandal, an Indian group, recently held an eight-hour-long programme, which included vocal music, design competitions and a one-act play.

The programme began with an exhibition-cum-competition of Rangoli, the traditional form of decoration and designs. The winners of the contest were U. Rao, A. Ketkar and R. Khare.

More than 21 children participated in the fancy dress competition. The winners were A. Mavinkurve (first prize) S. Agashe (second prize) and the

third prize was won jointly by Sharmila Shelikar and Ketan Khare.

Marathi songs were presented by vocalists Mrs. Shelikar, Mrs. Rao, Mrs. Joshi, Mrs. Godse. Mrs. Deshpande presented classical music.

The highlight of the programme was a one-act play entitled "Hi Ohadi Ashich Rahu De," written and directed by Gahankar. The cast included Mrs. Shelikar, Mrs. Jawahire, Mrs. Khare, Ms. Virkar, Gokhale, Bhagwat and Jawahire.



Some vocalists and musicians (L-R): Kapadnis (harmonium) Mrs. Joshi, Mrs. Godse, Mrs. Shelikar, Mrs. Rao, Mrs. Deshpande and Ambekar (tabla).



A scene from the Marathi play.



Sharmila and Ketan, the third prize winners of the fancy dress contest.

KALPAK
formed

ANOTHER group to promote Malayalam art and literature called KALPAK has been set up in Kuwait. A secular and non-political group, it claims to be the only organisation with a women's wing attached to it.

The association recently elected its officials. They are Pandalar Mohamed Bashir (adviser); K.P. Balakrishnan Nair (president); Varghese Paradayil (general secretary); and Mrs. Anita Ramesh (secretary, women's wing).

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.10 Good Morning
- 9.15 Cartoon serial
- 9.45 World News via Satellite
- 10.00 Imraa Fi Duwamah: Arabic serial; Part 7. Starring: Aida Abdul Aziz, Salah Zulfikar, Tayseer Fahmi, Mohsin Sarhan
- 10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
- 11.00 Saghirat Alai Hayat: local Arabic serial; Part 7; starring Hayat Al Fahad, Zainab Al Dahl, Hind Kamel, Dawood Hussein, Mohammad Sayeed
- 12.00 That's Incredible
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Holy Quran/Closedown

EVENING

- 4.00 Holy Quran
- 4.15 World News via Satellite
- 4.45 Cartoon serial
- 5.15 Tum Tek and Children
- 6.00 Liga Fi Al Zakira: historical serial; star-

- ring Fawzia Mahdi, Nizar Al Samarai
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.15 Songs and Music
- 7.45 Diwanat Shuara Al Nabir poetry session
- 8.30 Good Evening
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Al Jawaarih: Arabic serial. Ep. 1, starring Safa Abul Saud, Salah Saadani, Yusuf Shaban, Mohsina Tawfiq
- 11.30 Variety Show
- 12.30 News Summary
- 12.35 World News via Satellite
- 1.00 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Owl: a documentary for young viewers. Tonight, the children visit a space centre and learn about telescopes.
- 7.00 Scientific Eye: "Force and Friction"
- 7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: "Put to the Test". Dave disregards rules and finds himself in a lot

- of trouble.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Call Me Mister: Sir Jack is hired to investigate the case of a woman who is in a mental hospital
- 9.40 Dive to Adventure: "Bahamas"
- 10.00 What's Happening Now: "Deep". James is not too happy about Dee's relationship with his friend.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "The Man Who Lived at the Ritz". Part 2. Perry King plays Philip Webber, an American, who helps the French resistance movement during the German occupation of Paris. Also starring Cherie Lunghi, Leslie Caron, David McCallum, David Robb and Joe Ackland. Based on the classic novel by A.E. Hotchner.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 Newslash
- 30 Composer of the Month: Purcell
- 0100 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: 8th and 15th The Tempest; 22nd The Lovers of Viorne; 29th The Countess Cathleen
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 My Grandfather (ex 29th Reading)
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News About Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Quote, Unquote
- 0400 Newslash
- 30 From Old-Time to New Country
- 45 Worldbrief
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial Review
- 40 Words of Faith
- 45 Letter from America

- 0600 Newslash
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Book Choice
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 15 The Pleasure of Yours
- 0900 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 Nature Now
- 30 Financial Review
- 39 Book Choice
- 45 Poems by Post (ex 29th W. B. Yeats: Readings from the Poems)
- 1000 News Summary followed by Science in Action
- 30 In Praise of God
- 1100 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Composer of the Month: Purcell
- 1200 News Summary followed by Play of the Week: 8th and 15th The Tempest; 22nd The Lovers of Viorne; 29th The Countess Cathleen

- 1300 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Sports Roundup
- 45 Worldbrief
- 1400 News Summary followed by 8th The Art of Weathering; 15th Boy Soldiers; 22nd and 29th The International Actus Tragicus
- 30 Anything Goes
- 1500 Newslash
- 15 Concert Hall
- 1600 World News
- 09 News about Britain
- 15 Monarchs (ex 22nd Gypsies)
- 29th W. B. Yeats: The Last Romantic
- 45 Letter from America

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Behereen Qaul
- 1916 Programme Preview
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Ek Khayal Ek Geet
- 2000 News
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Geet Kahani
- 2050 Chagun

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Hajeri Pharmacy
Hajeri Bldg., Hilali St.
Al Sharq Al Jedd Pharmacy
Opp. Science Museum, Safat Market
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Kindi Pharmacy
Opp. Asian Olympic Council Bldg., Jabriya
Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Maidan Pharmacy
Mishari Al Khalid Bldg., Baghdad St.
Fahsheel and Almadhi
Al Adil Pharmacy
Awadhi Bldg., Dabbous St.
F'heel
Jeeb Al Shiyoohk
Al Hassawi Pharmacy
Qatiah 3, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Commercial Market

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Twinkle Twinkle Lucky Stars
Starring: Jackie Chan
Al Jahra
Pehchan (Hindi)
Granada
Vijay (Hindi)
Salaikhat
Five Deadly Angels
Al Jeeb
Adholokam (Malayalam)
Almadhi Drive-In
Raising Arizona

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.19 am
Zuhr	12.00
Asr	2.58 pm
Maghreb	5.18
Isha	6.38

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
ANN Eid: Photographs of Kuwait, on show at the gallery, Thunayan Al Ghanem Bldg., Al Sopor St. Open daily from 5-8pm.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT — Thurs: 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4.30 to 7.30 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Tareq Rajah Museum
SAT — Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT — Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

Ghadir Gallery
UNTIL JAN 24: Kuwaiti artist Awatif Al Shatty will display a selection of her latest paintings at the gallery. It will be open from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Iwan Gallery
EXHIBITION of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zahra Complex, Salmiya.

Kuwait Science Museum
DAILY: 5 pm onwards: natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Friday: 9 am onwards.

Cuban art show
UNTIL Jan 24: a collection of paintings by Cuban artists is on show at the Kuwait National Museum. Open from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Kuwait Society for Formative Arts
JAN 27 to Feb 9: The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts will hold the annual general exhibition, displaying art works by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
KUWAIT Players present Alice in Wonderland, a musical fantasy directed by Carol Jelley. It will be performed at the Universal American School, Salwa. Performances are as follows:

Jan 23: 5.30 pm: Madhatters Tea Party, followed by Alice in Wonderland.

Jan 26: matinee (3 pm) and evening (6.30 pm).

Jan 27: Final performance is at 4 pm.

Tickets — KD 3 (adults) and KD 2.500 (children). For reservations call 5726048; 5657749. Please collect tickets the day before the performance.

Funkar Arts Group
JAN 27, 5 pm: The Indian



Artist Hassan Jouni is showing a collection of his latest paintings at the Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Gallery. The exhibition is open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 4 to 8 pm. Above: Birds in Flight, one of the paintings on show.

theatre group, Funkar Arts will present two one-act plays. Bus Stop, a comedy and Second Trap, a suspense drama will be performed at the IAC. A dance show will also be held.

IAC Drama Competition
IAC will hold an one-act play competition in the first half of May. All Indian groups can enter the competition. For details call 3904817 after 6.30 pm; Sharma 2644863; Raman — 3903879.

MUSIC

Dhanak
FEB 3: The musical groups Funkada and Saaz aur Awaz will present a musical evening

entitled "Dhanak" at the SAS Tent. It will feature a number of local singers and bands. The musical evening will be followed by dinner.

Kuwait Singers
Rehearsals for the next Kuwait Singers concert will be held each Saturday and Monday from 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School. Past, current and new singers welcome. For details phone 3900922 or 5384873.

CINEMA

Children's film
JAN 25 (6 pm), Jan 26 (10.30 am): Robin Hood is the title of a film which will be shown at the

British Council, Mansouriya. The animals tell their version of what really happened in Sherwood Forest, as the tale of the legendary English hero and his followers unfolds in this Walt Disney film. Duration: 80 minutes. Admission is free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

SOCIAL

Jumble Sale
JAN 27 (Friday): St. Paul's jumble sale will be held outside the Kuwait Little Theatre premises in Almadhi from 2.30 onwards. Clothes, shoes, toys, books, electrical and household goods will be available at

bargain prices. All are welcome.

Kuwait Rondels
FEB 16: The Kuwait Rondels Grand Ball '89 will be held at the Messilah Beach Hotel. Tickets are now available. Tel: 5337597.

Kuwait Caledonians
FEB 2: The Caledonians will hold the Burns Night (Thursday) at the Messilah Beach Hotel. The guest from Scotland will be Jack Glenney. Tel: 5335082; 5332235; 3727691 ext. 253.

HOTELS

At the Meridien
UNTIL Jan 26: Apple promotion at Al Fingan Tea Lounge; items on the menu include cocktails, cakes and pies.

Shrimps promotion is being held at La Brasserie. Fresh shrimps prepared in a variety of ways are on offer, daily until Jan 31.

Every Sunday: Mexican Night at La Brasserie. A wide selection of Mexican dishes are offered; menu includes tacos, nachos, paelia and refried beans; live entertainment.

At the Sheraton
RICCARDO'S: Italian cuisine prepared using homemade pasta; lunch and dinner, evening entertainment by the Sienna's Duo. Closed on Fridays.

Al Hambra: Sundays: Lebanese cuisine; Tuesday's is Thai Night; Wednesdays:

seafood night; musicians provide a blend of music from the East and the West.

Friday's buffet brunch while the children enjoy games in the Ballroom next door.

Hunt Room: lunch and dinner, specialises in meat and fish dishes.

At the Kuwait International
JAN 28: The Edinburgh Philharmonic Orchestra will give a recital featuring a selection of contemporary and classical music. Excerpts of Haydn, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven and other composers will be performed by the quartet. For reservations contact the hotel.

The Spanish extravaganza featuring Flamenco dancers continues in the Failaka Restaurant.

At the SAS
AL BUSTAN Friday Brunch: for families from 11.30 am to 3 pm, highlights include music by Polish duo Danuta and Feliks and video corner for kids.

Peacock Room: Chinese meals prepared by chef Von Kwee Kiong. The menu features fried wonton, sauteed diced chicken with cashew nut and steak Chinese style.

At Boom: "New Taste of the Week" prepared by chef Peter D. Zobrist. Appetizers, charcoal grilled steak and seafood, plus daily special.

At the Pullman
ELYSEES Restaurant offers gourmet French meal; Al Shallal Coffee Shop features international and Arabic cuisine with live entertainment.

At Messilah Beach
MUBARAKIYAH Restaurant: open 24 hours, buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner and snacks. Sundays: Ladies Day; Mondays: birthday special; Fridays: special buffet "a go go".

At the Remada
AL BENDARA Coffee Shop offers Continental and Arabic buffets for breakfast, lunch and dinner; 6 am to midnight; a la carte available.

Thursday's is BBQ Night at Le Mirage Night Club, with full buffet and entertainment by the Al Arzz Band.

The Friday Family Brunch introduces cartoon characters on the ship's discovery; train tour of the hotel's garden and waterfront.

The Marina Takeaway Counter features a selection of sandwiches and snacks, 4 to 11 pm.

At the Continental
GARDENIA: 7 am to midnight; buffets featuring Arabic, Continental and Indian food. Special buffet for Thursday dinner and Friday lunch. Dabbar: daily Indian lunch buffet, except Friday; a la carte dinner.

SPORTS

Laser Sailing
FEB 3: Start of Messilah Beach laser club's spring series. Laser owners and others interested are welcome. For details contact David Clark: 4845171/2425947; P. Shepherd — 4845153/5314957; P. Berry — 3924174.

British scientists claim critical breakthrough in earthquake prediction

By Amit Roy

SCIENTISTS working for the British Geological Survey say they have made a critical "breakthrough" in earthquake prediction.

Much of the credit for the discovery goes to Professor Stuart Crampin, 53, the senior member of the global seismological group of the BGS in Edinburgh, one of the world's leading earthquake monitoring organisations.

The new development, if initial optimism proves justified, will greatly reduce the human misery suffered at every big earthquake. Up to 100,000 died in the Armenian earthquake last month, but by historical standards the disaster was unexceptional. In 1201 an earthquake in the eastern Mediterranean killed 1.1m. In China the toll in 1976 in Tangshan was 800,000.

Crampin's thesis, is this: Earthquakes are born when stress is deformed by stress usually at depths of 10km to 20km in the earth's crust.

As this stress increases, micro-earthquakes occur and the rocks emit "shear waves" — rapid, vibratory movements of particles.

These waves travel swiftly in all directions and, if analysed, can reveal information about what happens to rock as earthquakes build up. If the waves can be correctly decoded before a big earthquake, its timing and strength can be accurately predicted.

If alerts were triggered long enough in advance then planners would be warned not to build towns in danger areas or new high-rise buildings would be built on deep-driven piles and constructed with steel girders, columns and frames. Existing houses could have foundations strengthened.

There is a crucial factor which makes Crampin's work so fresh. His team has found an invaluable combination of instrumentation which can read what is happening on the earth's surface. But this is done in such a way that, with mathematical calculation,

seismologists can work out what is happening deep down, where the earthquake is growing.

Unfortunately Crampin's work was not far enough advanced for the Armenian cities of Leninakan and Spitak to be saved. But it is hoped that in a matter of years there will be no basis for Mikhail Gorbachev's statement to the Soviet people that nobody in the world could have predicted the Armenian disaster.

Although Crampin emphasises the need for further work if earthquake prediction is to be as routinely accurate as weather forecasting, last week he was confident enough to call his new development "the most fundamental advance in seismology for decades."

Discovery

To reinforce his discovery Crampin and one of his colleagues, Dr Russ Evans, 39, will examine crucial data when the next earthquake rocks a small Californian village called Parkfield, midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

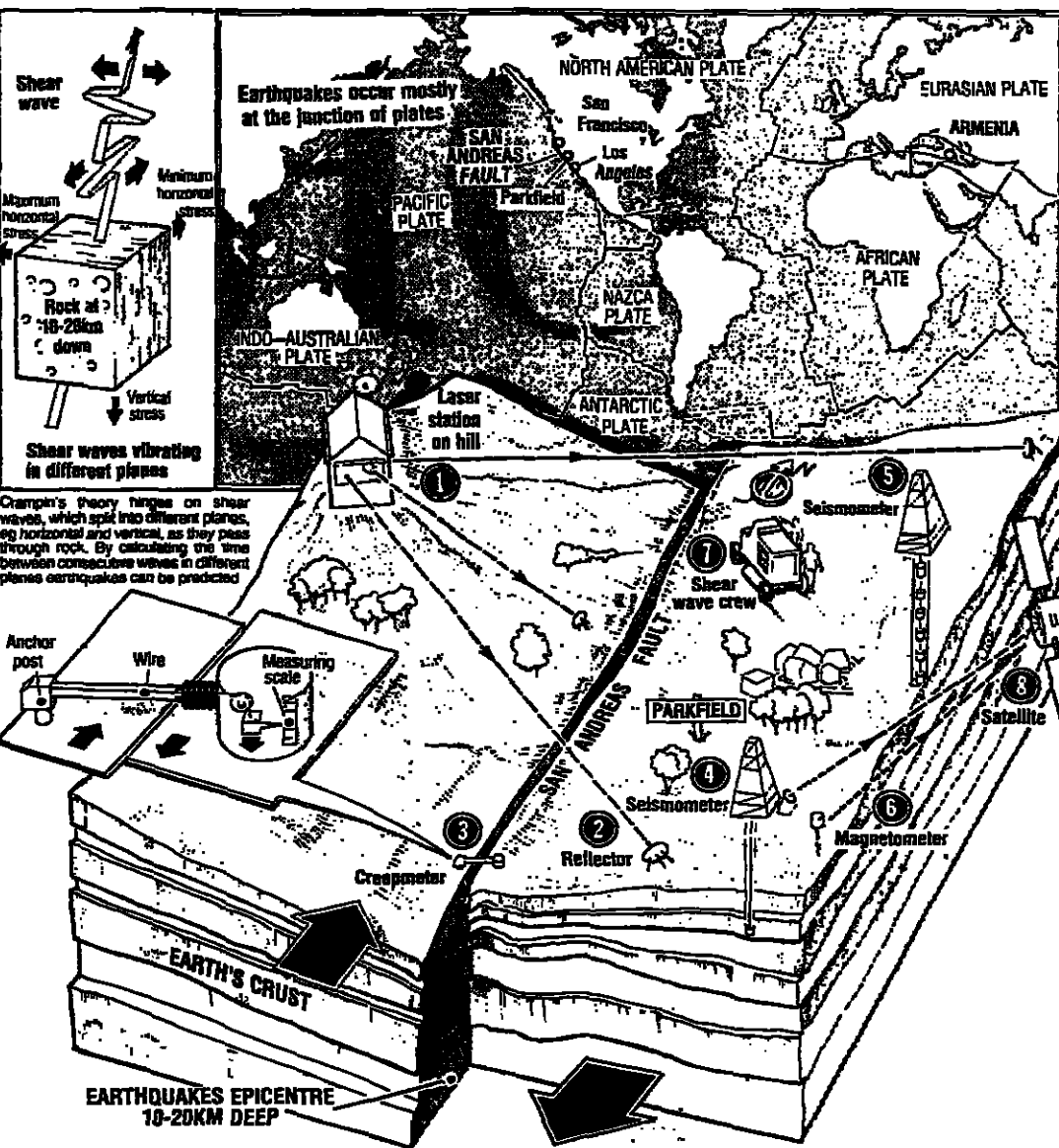
Parkfield is a farming community of 34 people, a few hundred metres from the San Andreas fault, where the American and Pacific plates of the earth's crust grind against each other and have been responsible for numerous earthquakes in the past.

The San Francisco earthquake of 1906 killed 800 people. Los Angeles is due to suffer a big earthquake within the next 30 years. It is estimated up to 20,000 of its 3.1m population will be killed.

Parkfield has been chosen because modest earthquakes occur there every 21 or 22 years. The next is imminent.

The "earthquake prototype experiment," which involves saturating the area with instrumentation, has been designed partly by Dr William Bakun, chief of the seismological branch in the US Geological Survey at Menlo Park, California.

He says: "We consider Crampin's line of inquiry promising. Though it is not universally



Armenia's legacy: the earth's crust is made up of giant plates (top). To monitor earthquakes, which occur where plates meet, scientists are using (above): (1) lasers, to measure movement by bouncing beams off (2) reflectors; (3) creepmeters, to measure displacement by assessing strain on wires stretched across faults; (4) seismometers, to measure water level; (5) meters to measure rock distortion; (6) magnetometers, to measure magnetic field; (7) shear wave measuring devices; (8) and a satellite to transmit information to the laboratory.

accepted, he may be right. He is clearly the foremost exponent of his technique in the world.

Crampin was the first to recognise that shear waves, which cause movement in all three dimensions, were worth probing. His work was also eased by the development of new technology which could time shear waves in fractions of a second.

Crampin has drawn on the findings of colleagues and evolved a "unifying" theory from the disparate bits of research.

The earth's crust is made up of giant floating plates, 30km thick, which move on a molten mantle. Earthquakes occur when these plates do a combination of three things: thrust, slip, and slide

against each other.

Crampin says as this happens shear waves are sent out and travel through rock, splitting into different "polarisations" — or planes. When he and Evans conducted experiments in Turkey and examined data from the Soviet Union, Japan and the United States, they noted the time of difference between the arrival of consecutive shear waves in two polarisations (one moving on the horizontal, the other on the vertical) and found an emerging pattern.

They discovered that three years before an earthquake in southern California, the typical time difference between consecutive shear waves was 2/100

sec. This rose to 4/100 sec just before the earthquake and then fell to 2/100 sec after it. Crampin's theory therefore explains an earthquake's origin, and offers the possibility of predicting when and how large it might be.

He believes the whole secret of accurate prediction lies in linking this time difference to the stage reached by a gathering earthquake. He hopes to continue his experiments in China with European Economic Community funding.

Crampin says that scientists have to be confident of getting their prediction right. A wrong forecast would badly undermine their credibility.

Global warming trend will alter world agriculture

By Viorel Urma

VIENNA, Austria (AP): The greenhouse effect could turn the wheatbelt of the US and Canada to a dry and windy dust bowl and significantly increase production of rice in Japan, said a study released recently.

The first international study of its kind, the climate impacts project, conducted a set of case studies in 11 regions of the world to estimate the impact on agriculture of long-term climate warming due to accumulation of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

The warming could also significantly improve crop yields in the northern and southern regions of the Soviet Union if agricultural policies adapt to take advantage of warmer conditions, but face semi-arid regions of Brazil, Australia, India and parts of Africa with disastrous droughts.

The "greenhouse effect" is the expected warming of the earth from the growing concentration of gases in the atmosphere that keep heat from being radiated out to space. The principal greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide, has increased 10 per cent since 1958 and continued worldwide use of fossil fuels and destruction of tropical rain forests point to further increases.

Case studies for Japan, the northern part of the Soviet Union, Western Canada, Finland and Iceland were used to determine the probable effects of climate warming on agriculture in the cool and temperate regions of the world.

Case studies on Brazil, Australia, India, Kenya and Ecuador were used to assess the impact of more frequent and severe climatic disasters on agriculture on semi-arid regions.

Recent assessments suggest that the concentration of carbon dioxide and other trace gases in the atmosphere may double between 2030 and 2100, Prof. Martin Parry from Birmingham University in England said.

Parry directed the team of 76 scientists from 17 countries who were involved in the four-year project.

"That would likely produce increases in global mean temperature in the range of 1.5 to 5.5 degrees Centigrade (35 to 42 degrees Fahrenheit)," he said.

The 1,750-page study was carried by the international institute for applied system analysis (IIASA) and the UN environment programme.

IIASA is a non-governmental organisation, supported by scientific academies and institutes in 16 member countries from the East and West, including the United States, Canada, Japan and the Soviet Union.

Parry predicted that the warming trend will bring about geographical shifts in growing patterns of crops and alter the frequency and magnitude of severe shocks to agriculture from major floods, persistent droughts, forest fires and crop pests.

Among the more plausible scenarios for the effects of global climate warming on agriculture:

— Conditions in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan, which accounts for 60 per cent of Canada's wheat production, similar to those found in the northern great plains of the United States, could return to 1930s conditions, with an increased frequency of severe droughts and of wind erosion due to low moisture levels.

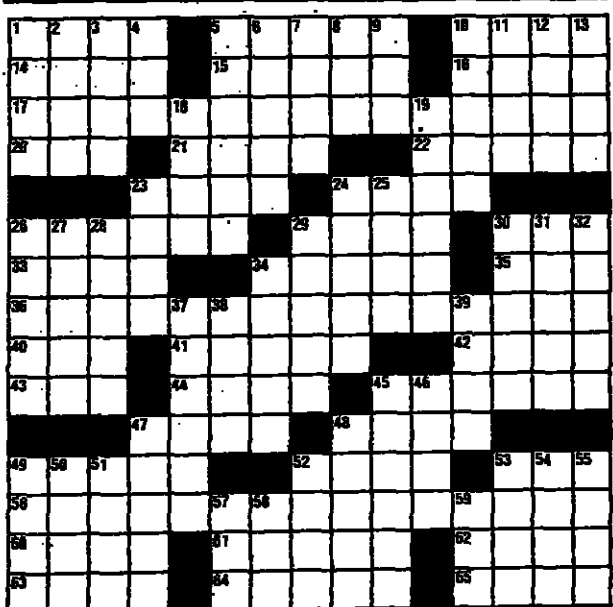
If this occurred, farm production could experience a dramatic setback in the province, including the loss of 1,200 jobs in the agricultural sector and of 275 million Canadian dollars per year in farm income.

— Global climate warming due to the greenhouse effect could greatly increase production of rice in Japan, creating an acute surplus of expensive rice that would require drastic government action for its disposal.

Average temperature for the Hokkaido region of Japan is expected to rise by 3 to 5 degrees Centigrade (37 to 41 Fahrenheit) by the year 2040.

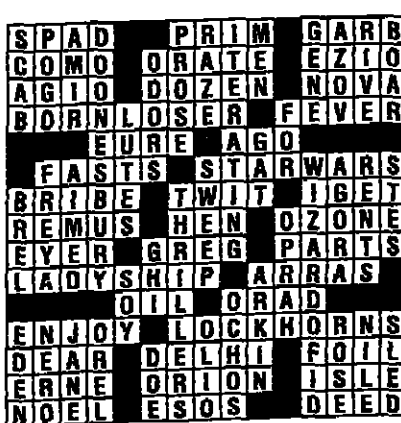
— Substantial warming will occur in the central part of the European USSR.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Way to pay
 - bagatelle
 - Seed coating
 - Countertop
 - Hardship
 - Instrumentalist's concern
 - Lewis-Young song of 1928
 - Start of "Home, Sweet Home"
 - Road sign
 - Do tailoring
 - "The — in Red"
 - Arrived
 - Spot
 - French comic Jacques
 - Except
 - Bard's stream
 - Finch
 - Palindromic preposition
 - Please with savory food
 - Sign
 - Red as —
 - Salt Lake City players
 - Napoleonic marshal
 - Prepare fish
 - Coda
 - De Lauretis
 - Robert or Alan
 - Picasso prop
 - Ballet bend
 - Pop's mate
 - Lyricist Asaf's advice in a 1915 song
 - ilk
 - Aaron specialty
 - Prod
 - Vicinity
 - Brings forth young
 - Angora
- DOWN**
- Serene

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



GOREN-BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

TOO CLEVER BY HALF

Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
 ♠ A 2
 ♥ 7 5
 ♦ A 10 4
 ♣ A J 9 7 5 3

WEST
 ♠ Q 10 6 4
 ♥ 8 6 3
 ♦ 9 7 5
 ♣ Q 10 2

EAST
 ♠ 9
 ♥ A K Q 10 4 2
 ♦ J 6 3
 ♣ 8 6 4

SOUTH
 ♠ K J 8 7 5 3
 ♥ J 9
 ♦ K Q 8 2
 ♣ K

The bidding:
 North East South West
 1 ♠ 1 ♥ 1 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♥

Sometimes it doesn't pay to be too clever. You can alert a perceptive declarer to wonder what's going on, and he might come up with the right answer.

Note North's bidding. Since the auction marked his partner with at least five spades, North saw no reason to rebid his clubs another time. Instead, he took preference to his partner's first suit, and South needed no further urging to contract for game—knowledge that his partner

had something in spades was enough.

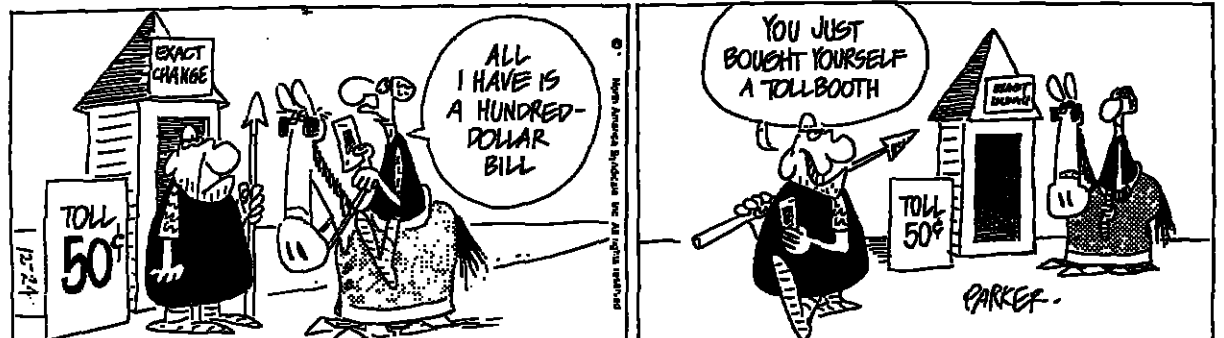
West led the top of his hearts to his partner's queen, and East continued with the king as West produced the six. Had East simply exited with a minor-suit card, declarer would surely have been defeated—he would have won, cashed the ace of spades and continued with a trump. When East failed to follow, declarer would have had no way to recover; he would inevitably have had to lose two trump tricks.

However, East elected to try to weaken declarer's trump holding by continuing with a third heart, giving declarer a ruff-suff he did not need. Declarer ruffed in hand, and began to ask himself why East had adopted such an unusual defense. He came to the conclusion that West was trying to protect his partner's trump tricks.

Declarer continued with a spade to the ace, and East's nine strengthened declarer's suspicions. Backing his card-reading skill, declarer cashed the king of clubs and three rounds of diamonds, ending in dummy. He discarded a diamond on the ace of clubs and ruffed a club. Now declarer exited with the eight of spades. West won with the ten, but he had to lead from his queen into declarer's K-J tenace, so South had his ten tricks.

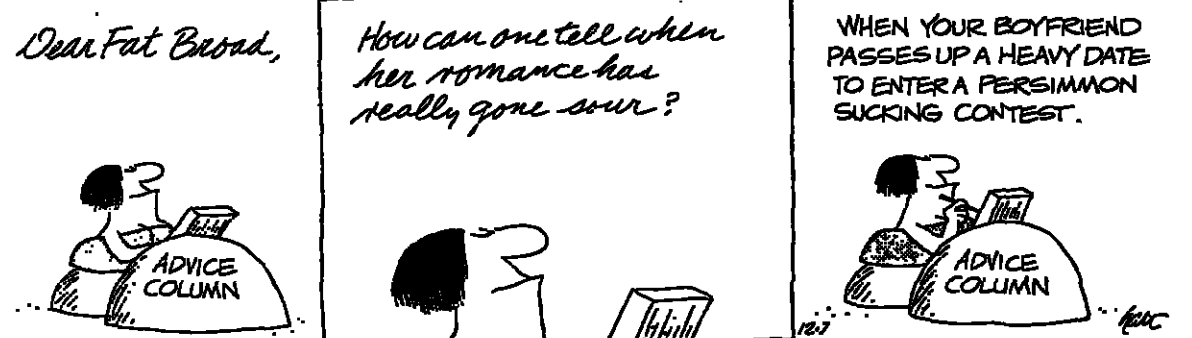
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

This is going to be a good day for you. You will have some bother with an old friend of yours. Try to look on the bright side. Be observant.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should try to spend the day on your own or in pleasant company. Do not allow thoughts of work to intrude. Do not try to swim against the stream. Be appreciative.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)

You will be able to have a frank talk. A longstanding problem will be closer to a solution. Not everything will be to your liking but much will. Be considerate.

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

The better influence of Mars and Jupiter will help you to have a most pleasant day. You will also be better able to relax and look on the light side. You should not try to keep up appearances beyond the capacity of your purse.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

The Moon's less favourable influence will make things a little harder but there is no cause for alarm. Do not permit yourself to worry about what cannot be changed. Make sure you do not let love grow stale. Be smart.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

The Moon's influence will tend to make you feel less contented. Not everything is working out the way you would wish but you will know how to make the most of things. Avoid being pessimistic. Be moderate.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)

You should not make your partner feel unwanted. You will be able to overcome some momentary tensions. Venus' influence will help you to think more positively. Be polite.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)

You must not allow yourself to become too closely involved in a matter that is really no concern of yours. Mercury's better influence will help you to manage your affairs better. You should not resent constructive criticism.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should spend some time thinking about your situation. Do not think it is too late — it is only if you think it is. You should not do anything that would be contrary to your principles. Be objective.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

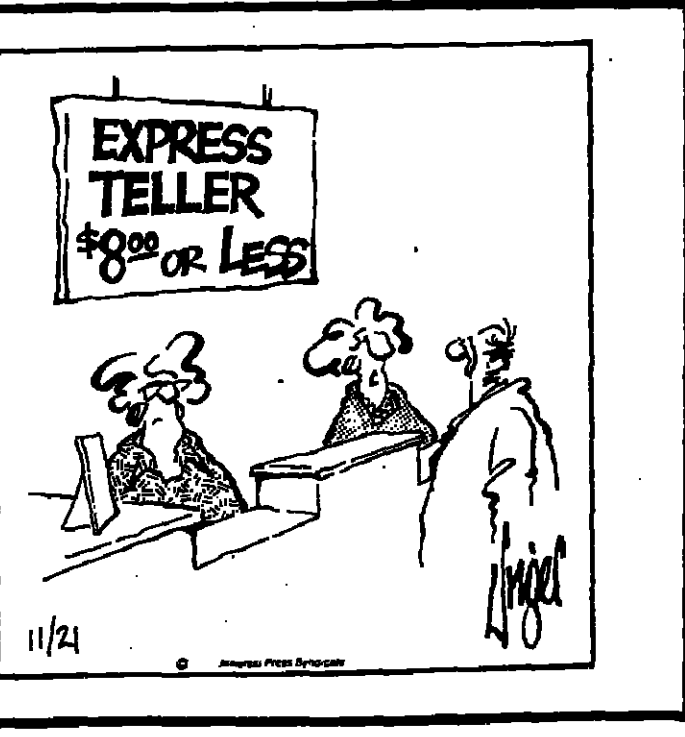
You will be able to settle a matter that has been in doubt. You should avoid acting on impulse. Make sure you are suitably dressed for the occasion. Be patient.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec. 21)

A friend of yours will stand by you and you should show your appreciation. You should avoid the temptation to drive too fast. If you accept an invitation do not overstay your welcome. Be less supercilious.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have enough energy for the tasks at hand. You should also have a little more faith in yourself. You will have plenty to be pleased about. Be selective.



SNIPPETS

Libel case professor goes into hiding

A UP professor who challenged the authenticity of the Tasaday as a Stone Age tribe has gone into hiding since last week after two CIS agents from Cotabato tried to arrest him.

"I don't want to be brought to Cotabato. I'll die there," Jerome Baiten, head of the UP folklore studies programme, said.

Baiten has been charged with libel — together with Inquirer publisher Eugenio Apostol and Inquirer reporter Roy de Guzman — in connection with a series of articles expressing doubts on the authenticity of the Tasaday as a Stone Age tribe.

The case was filed in South Cotabato by T'boli Mayor Mai Tuan, a follower of former Presidential Assistant for National Minorities chief Manuel Elizalde Jr., who has been credited with the Tasaday "find" in 1971.

Congressmen must have license for firearms

A SHIPMENT of 150 high-powered firearms reportedly for congressmen's bodyguards was ordered seized by Constabulary chief Brig. Gen. Ramon Montano as President Aquino said lawmakers would have to apply for license to own firearms like other Filipino citizens.

The shipment is part of a total of 600 firearms ordered by Rep. Rodrigo Duterte (LDP, North Cotabato), chairman of the House public safety committee, and is covered by an import authorization issued by Montano himself.

Closed-circuit camera at Ninoy airport

THE closed-circuit television cameras that will monitor activities at the immigration section of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) have already been installed.

This was announced by Immigration Commissioner Miriam Defensor-Santiago and Airport General Manager Eduardo Carrasco.

Santiago said the first batch of TV cameras were taken from the Pasfeco office while the immigration commission will provide additional cameras within the next few weeks.

Carrasco, however, refused to give the exact number of cameras in operation.

Santiago is also studying the possibility of installing cameras at the comfort rooms which, she said, are being used by criminal syndicates as "safehouses" in transacting illicit business with departing passengers.

'Psychotic' vagrants arrested

A TOTAL of 342 "psychotic vagrants" who roam the streets of Metro Manila have been arrested by the Metro Manila Commission and turned over to the National Centre for Mental Health.

MMC Governor Elfen Cruz said the three-day drive to rid the metropolis of "these sooty vagrants" came after it was noted that the number of these men and women is increasing.

Of those arrested, 239 were found to be psychotics and were admitted to the mental hospital. Aside from "cleaning the city of these vagrants," Cruz said they would rehabilitate them to become productive people.

Others who are not mentally deranged were referred to the Fabella Hospital.

Foreign coaches to train Pinoys

By Edwin Villanueva

SEVERAL coaches from two European and one Central American countries are scheduled to arrive in the country soon to help local athletes train for the 15th Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in Kuala Lumpur this August.

Philippine Olympics Committee (POC) President Jose C. Siring yesterday told the Inquirer that negotiations under the bilateral sports exchanges programme are currently underway between the Philippines, West Germany, Czechoslovakia and Cuba.

Siring said he met with the respective envoys of West Germany and Czechoslovakia yesterday and discussed plans about the bilateral agreement.

"I've talked with the ambassadors of West Germany and

'City of Flowers' becomes a funeral place

By Criselda Yabes

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines. (Reuters): Eduardo Batalla rode into town with a mission. He was going to wipe out the criminal syndicates that had spread terror in the Philippines 'City of Flowers.'

Six months later he was dead. Early this month, two weeks after President Corason Aquino promoted him to general, Batalla was taken hostage and killed in his own headquarters. The military said the killers were a group of police renegades led by Rizal Ali, Zamboanga's most feared gunman.

The hostage drama in the major southern Philippine seaport left 18 people dead, most of them criminals, and shocked the nation.

"No one kills a general and gets away with it," armed forces chief Renato de Villa said after helicopters rocketed the camp to end the two-day takeover.

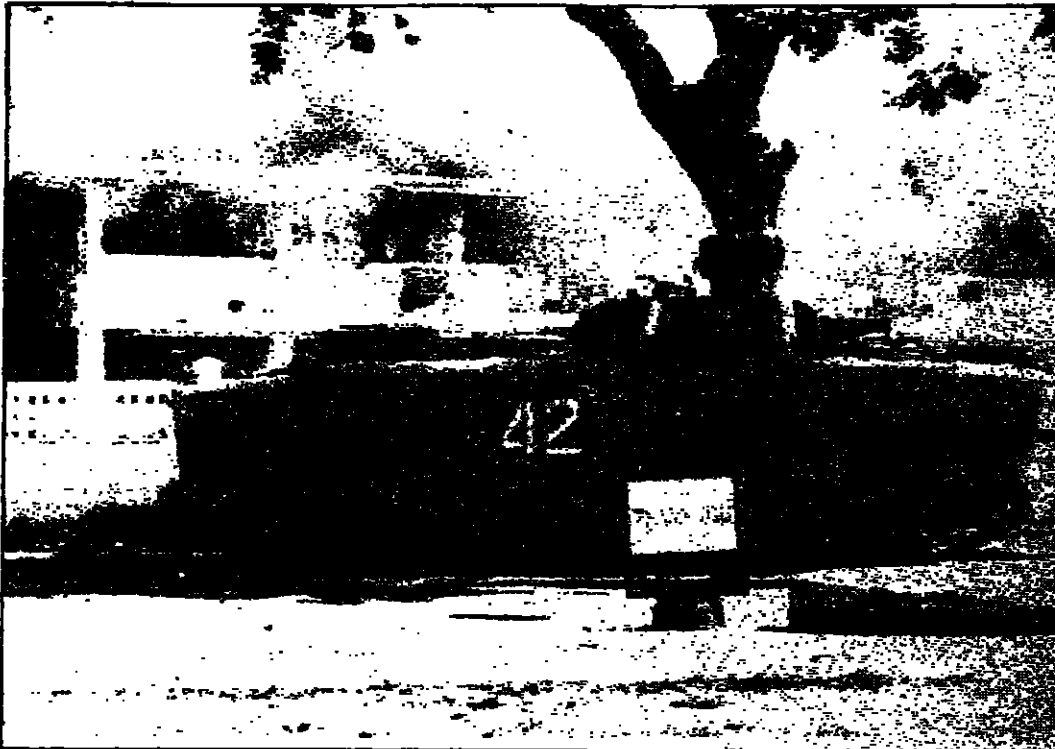
A question that disturbed many was how a small group of half a dozen men could take over an entire garrison, organise reinforcements to defy Army power and hold a city virtually at bay for more than two days.

It also showed how deeply entrenched crime syndicates are in a country where men in uniform are often seen, rightly or wrongly, as lawbreakers themselves.

Batalla was not the only crusader whose zeal to bring peace to this major tourist city brought him death.

In 1984 mayor Cesar Climaco was gunned down in the street.

He became a statistic on a huge scoreboard he had set up outside the city hall listing the number of killings and bombings in Zamboanga each day.



City of the gun: a tank rolls behind a 'thank you' signboard in Zamboanga where renegade policemen killed a general and a colonel they held hostage

Ali was charged with the murder.

Government troops tried to arrest him but Ali and his men, turning his house into a fortress, fought them off in a fierce battle in which half a dozen soldiers and a military nurse were killed.

A judge dismissed the murder case for lack of evidence and the crime remains unsolved.

As alleged godfather of a local Muslim 'Mafia' with military and police connections, Ali has come to symbolise lawlessness in the city of half a million people, the military says.

His takeover of the downtown camp this month came after the military ordered him and eight

followers, all soldiers and policemen, to be arrested on new murder charges.

By the time Army helicopters set the garrison on fire with the rocket attack, Ali's group had swollen to 30 men after sympathetic Muslim soldiers joined him.

None of the charged bodies retrieved from the camp fitted Ali's description, suggesting he escaped the bombardment.

His whereabouts are unknown. Some local Muslim officials said they believed he had fled to nearby Jolo island, a predominantly Muslim area.

Called the 'City of Flowers' because of the exotic blossoms that once abounded in its street,

Zamboanga through the years has become a city under the gun.

Located 850 km (530 miles) south of Manila, it has enjoyed for years a flourishing trade with neighbouring Singapore and Sabah. Predominantly Christian, it lies on the western tip of Mindanao, a region regarded by the country's five million Muslim minority as its ancestral home.

Migration has turned Mindanao into a Christian-dominated area. More than 50,000 people died at the height of a Muslim separatist revolt in the 1970s.

Residents have accepted violence as part of their lives.

Bombings of moviehouses and police stations in the 1970s were

blamed largely on rebels. Other incidents, including assassinations and kidnappings, show the hand of crime syndicates, officials say.

Foreign tourists and local businessmen are targets of kidnap-for-ransom gangs. Almost no one is ever prosecuted.

Last year's murder of Fernando Blanco, a prominent wealthy lawyer, was blamed on a military-backed syndicate. Fearing for their lives, the rest of the Blanco family fled to the United States.

Major-General Manuel Cacanando, regional military commander, said the rise of crime syndicate began during the rule of ex-President Ferdinand Marcos. Then, men with criminal records were taken into the military or police on payment of a fee.

After enlisting, Ali organised his own syndicate, extorting money from businessmen and street vendors, Cacanando said. The group, said to be the biggest of three syndicates operating in Zamboanga, is also suspected of involvement in kidnappings and killings.

"It became like a Mafia and it is only now that we're trying to stop all these," Cacanando said.

Commentators see the latest Zamboanga incident as more than just the product of one man's violent nature.

"(It shows) how deeply the vein of criminality runs in the armed forces," the respected Manila Chronicle newspaper said. It called the military "a sanctuary for criminal elements like Ali."

Residents say the military action was a powerful message to other Rizal Ali. Councillor Jimmy Cabato said the Army's use of cannons and rockets against Ali "should teach the bad guys".

Cawa-cawa assault cost 30 million pesos

By Dave Veridiano

ZAMBOANGA CITY: The two-day air-and-ground assault on Camp Cawa-cawa held by renegade soldiers and policemen who had executed Brig. Gen. Eduardo Batalla and Col Romeo Abandan cost the government more than P30 million in terms of property destroyed or damaged, military engineers here said.

The total cost would go up a few million pesos more if an accounting were to be made of the shells, bullets, and fuel used in the operation, the engineers, who requested anonymity, estimated.

These unofficial estimates were made by the engineers on the basis of the buildings destroyed or damaged, office equipment and appliances lost, and the unrecovered personal belongings of the officers assigned to the camp.

An initial assessment report prepared by Capt. Alvarez Yusup, Recon 9 assistant chief of staff for logistics (R-4), said the main building of the PC headquarters was destroyed along with all the office equipment and appliances there.

The building was burned after it was hit directly by four air-to-land rockets fired from an Air Force Sikorsky helicopter gunship.

Damaged in the fighting were the enlisted men's canteen, the PC-CIS building, the Officers' Club building, Service Headquarters building, PC-SUSIA building, and the mosque inside the Camp Cawa-cawa compound.

Also destroyed were portions of the camp's fence, communication lines and electrical installations inside the compound.

The report, however, gave no estimate on the cost of property lost or destroyed.

The entire camp, which occupies a one-hectare lot, was practically razed by the fierce air-and-ground assault launched last Friday and Saturday to get Rizal Ali, and his men who took control of the camp after holding Batalla and Abandan hostage.

A logistics officer, who asked not to be identified, said a helicopter consumes about P10,000 worth of fuel every hour it is in the air, and an air-to-land rocket costs P7,000 each.

500,000 peso reward for Ali

A FIVE-MAN board of inquiry has been created to reconstruct the siege of Camp Cawa-cawa and provide the people with "an overall comprehensive accurate account" of what really happened, Defence Secretary Fidel V. Ramos said yesterday.

The board was created amid widespread criticism of the military handling of the attack on the camp by a group of renegade policemen who killed Brig. Gen. Eduardo Batalla, Recon 9 chief, and this chief of staff, Col. Romeo Abandan.

The five-man board, will be headed by Brig. Gen. Eduardo Cabanig, commander of the General Staff College.

In related developments: The regional autonomous government for Western Mindanao yesterday offered P500,000 for anyone who could give information on the whereabouts of Rizal Ali, the renegade policeman who led the group that attacked the Recon 9 headquarters and killed Batalla and Abandan.

Reports from Zamboanga City said the Moro National Liberation Front has offered Ali a top position in the secessionist movement. Another report said Ali will make a public statement shortly to prove he is alive.

KAPILKU, FLASSIK set the ball rolling for '89



KAPILKU officers being sworn into office.

THE newly-elected officers of the association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapisanang Filipino Sa Kuwait) and the Filipino Ladies association in Kuwait were sworn in last Friday at a ceremony held at the Meridien Hotel.

Charge D' Affaires and Consul-General Fortunato D. Oblena of the Philippine Embassy was the inducting officer.

Valedictory addresses were made by FLASSIK President '88 Rory Aurellano followed by the KAPILKU executive Vice-President George Santos.

Rev. Fr Jesus Guico blessed the new officers and wished them

every success in their forthcoming endeavours.

After the induction, the audience were treated to intermission numbers rendered by Songfest champion '87 Grace dela Fuente. KAPILKU secretary Rosafe Austria and SPOK dancer Jenny M. Borsoto performed some modern dances.

KAPILKU President Manny Inserto in his inauguration speech emphasized that the main goal of the newly-elected officers was to serve the welfare of all the Filipinos in Kuwait.

He also spelled out the benefits of being a KAPILKU member.

Inserto mentioned the many

and future projects of both organisations.

These include tailoring, dress-making and cooking classes, which would benefit all members including the less fortunate 'Kabayans'.

Rod Cerezo and Chi Chi G. Luna ably performed their roles as masters of ceremony.

FLASSIK '89

Grace C. — President
Marilyn Inductivo — Vice-President
Lorna Adil — Secretary
Josephine Reyes — Treasurer
Marilou Tordesillas — Auditor
Rose Foranadas — P.R.O.
Josephine Sankilang — Director
Grace dela Fuente —

Aquino to attend Hirohito's funeral

PRESIDENT Aquino leaves for Tokyo on Feb 23 to attend the funeral of Emperor Hirohito amid fears in the Japanese capital that radical leftist groups may attempt terrorist attacks, possibly with home-made missiles, during the rites.

Malacanang announced that the President will be accompanied by Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus and Ambassador Miguel Perez-Rubio, chief protocol officer.

Executive Secretary Catalino Macaraig Jr said the President will leave for Tokyo on Feb 23 and return on Feb 25, in time for the commemoration of the third anniversary of EDSA revolution.

Philippine Ambassador to Japan Ramon Del Rosario Sr said Aquino is not likely to take up official matters with other dignitaries "out of propriety."

But he said the government has "unofficial endeavours to get an audience with very important people."

Del Rosario said arrangements are being made to have the President booked at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. He said up to 40 other foreign dignitaries are expected to be booked in the same hotel.

Filipino students in Moscow complain of neglect

SOME 2,000 Filipino students in Moscow accused the Philippine embassy in the Russian capital of neglecting and insulting them, and of repeatedly spurning attempts to hold dialogues to solve "urgent problems."

In a letter to Mayor Richard J. Gordon of Olongapo City, the Filipino students said Philippine Ambassador to Moscow Alejandro Melchor even walked out on them and branded them as "communists" when they tried to seek an audience with the embassy officials.

The students' heads earlier sought Gordon's attention when the mayor visited Moscow, along with several congressmen and another city mayor.

The students, mostly "walk-in" applicants, said they were worried that they would not be accredited when they finish their studies in Russia, and thus make their stay in Moscow "an exercise in futility."

Ed Piano, who hails from Sta. Rita, also in Olongapo, told Gordon that they had already appealed to Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing on the accreditation problem, but the education official "has not bothered to give us a reply."

Efforts to follow up the letter to Quisumbing through the Philippine embassy also failed, "because Ambassador Melchor did not even bother to listen to the Filipino students," Piano said.

Americans fall prey to fishy business

TWO Americans, who were arrested and later detained for more than two weeks for illegal business assailed yesterday a Filipino friend whom they accused of victimizing them.

The Filipino befriended them while they were co-workers in Saudi Arabia.

The two were picked up after they attended a hearing in the Makati fiercest office where they sued their Filipino friend for estafa.

The two Americans were charged with engaging in an illegal fishpen business without proper visas.

Partnership

The two Americans entered into a partnership agreement with their Filipino friend to operate a fishpen in Laguna Lake.

They said they were encouraged by the government's invitation to foreign investors.

The Filipino assured the two that he will see to it that their contract is in accordance with Philippine laws and it will be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Filipino then returned to the Philippines, bringing with him dollars from the Americans.

With the money, the Filipino set up a fishpen and bought real properties in Pakil, Laguna, all of which he registered in his own name. Later, he kept on writing separately to the Americans asking for additional funds allegedly to keep their business going.

Fully trusting the Filipino, the two sent him more than P800,000 through several bank transfers.

Typhoon

Later, the Filipino wrote the Americans, saying a typhoon wiped out their business and that they must send more money to start anew.

Sensing something fishy, the two decided to come to the Philippines to check their friend, who wrote them that they could come as tourists.

After many months in the country, one of the Americans married a daughter of a barangay official.

When the two Americans gathered "enough evidence" that their friend squandered their money, they sued the Filipino before the Makati fiscal's office for estafa.

In retaliation, the Filipino complained to the Commission on Immigration and Deportation and sought the deportation of his American friends.



Kris Aquino: bent on pursuing a career in showbusiness

Kris Aquino: on the way to stardom

KRIS Aquino is really bent on pursuing her showbiz career. It seems that she is anticipating that her mother, the President, will finally grant her wish to do a movie when she turns 18 on Feb 14.

She recently enrolled in dance classes under Julie Borromeo and for acting, stage director Tony Espejo is preparing an acting syllabus exclusively for her.

Kris has endeared herself to Regal Films' patriarch, Lily Monteverde, whom she visited in the hospital recently when the latter was sick.

It will be remembered that when the President's daughter expressed her desire to join showbiz, Mother Lily immediately snapped her up for a six-episode TV contract on *Mother Studio Presents*. That appearance was followed by guestings on other Regal-produced TV shows, like *Regal Theater*, *Maricel Drama Special* and *Palihasan Lalake*.

When Kris is finally allowed to give the big screen a try, surely, Regal will be as interested as ever. But who will be her most likely leading man? Alvin Patrimonio, Randy Santiago, Richard Gomez, or one of the (handsome) sons of Edith Nakpil-Rabata?

Meanwhile, original Regal baby Snooky Serna, when informed about Mother Lily's condition in the hospital, allegedly remarked: "Hindi ako makakapunta, wala akong kose!" In fact, very few of Regal's contract stars bothered to visit their boss. How ingrata naman!

A silent star upstages Gene Hackman in new film

In his latest movie, award-winning Hackman plays a bar-owner whose business and love life are on the slide. But the real ole waterfront dive in *Full Moon in Blue Water* threatens to outshine the cast.

By Jilly Weber

IT is not often Academy award-winning actor Gene Hackman has to fight off the charisma of a co-star. But in his latest movie, 57-year-old Gene is more or less upstaged in nearly every scene by a rival without a line in the script.

For one of the principal "characters" in *Full Moon in Blue Water* is a real ole Texas bar. Pure and simple and, once having found it, the moviemakers gave the humble waterfront dive the magisterial treatment.

The bar, The Blue Water Grill, is the setting for a poignant story. Within its tobacco-stained walls four characters play out an interwoven set of relationships that mixes drama with comedy.

Gene is Floyd, the bar's owner whose wife has disappeared. The bar is on a downer that is equalled only by his miserable emotional slide.

Ex-cocktail waitress Louise, played by Teri Garr, tries to brighten up both Floyd's love life and his finances. She wants to restore that down-at-heel bar to

the glory it once knew.

Adding a little vinegar to the emotional cocktail is Floyd's cantankerous father-in-law the General, played by veteran star, Burgess Meredith. The fourth ingredient is Jimmy, Elias Koteas, a young hick local hired to look after the crochety general.

The cast assembled on location in the mid-summer heat of Houston, Texas. And that is where the fifth "star" of the movie was introduced to them.

Director Peter Masterson had already done the vital casting by finding an ideal "Blue Water Grill" just ten minutes drive from his home. Production designer Neil Spizak moved into the waterfront dive with its genuine Texas atmosphere and gave it a touch of movie-star make-up.

Then the actors moved in, working in the old Texas bar for four of the six weeks it took to shoot the location scenes.

Producer John Turman explained: "The bar is as much a character as the actors are. We figured we needed a real bar as a



Gene Hackman in his new film *Full Moon in Blue Water*.

fifth character, and Neil gave us the perfect one."

And Peter Masterson added: "I knew it was the right place. In

the script, there's an air of purity about Blue Water, which is also the name of the town. I knew we would find that purity and visual

quirkiness in my own backyard."

And, as the Texas moon shines over the waterfront, Hackman and Co. will drink to that.

from a veteran of the 1920s silent movies to current matinee idols, were called to the stage and introduced to the audience.

Many referred to the problems their vocation faces.

"Nowadays, actors work much harder than we used to," said Dilip Kumar, who was one of the most acclaimed stars in Bombay in the 1950s and 1960s. "But there are no good stories. There is no literature in the films."

Original scripts are rare in Bombay, and producers often help themselves to the themes of foreign films. Most successful Hollywood movies, ranging from *Irma La Douce* to *My Fair Lady* and *Kramer vs. Kramer* have been adapted to Indian situations.

Some of the films being screened at the festival are Academy award-winning *Babette's Feast* and *Moonstruck*, John Schlesinger's *Madame Sousatzka* and Paul Newman's *The Glass Menagerie*.

"I hope this festival will be an opportunity for us all to sample some of the most highly acclaimed films made over the past one or two years," said festival director Urmila Gupta. "It will also prove to be a voyage of discovery, taking us in new directions."

The move sometimes backfires.

Perhaps the biggest flop last year was *Ganga Jamuna Saraswati*, a movie starring former parliament member Amitabh Bachchan and another top actor, Mithun Chakraborty. The fees of the two are in the region of Rs5 million (\$330,000) each, according to film magazines.

The Illustrated Weekly of India, a news magazine, estimated the movie cost Rs30 million (\$2 million) to produce and labelled it a "box-office disaster."

"After the very first show, the public verdict was clear," the weekly said in its Jan 8 edition. "The film itself moved in fits and starts... technically, it was shockingly sub-standard. This time, the audience wasn't buying."

In New Delhi, the grim mechanics of film finances seemed far away as stars, in flowing dresses and satin suits, flocked to the festival inauguration.

Actors and actresses, ranging from a veteran of the 1920s silent movies to current matinee idols, were called to the stage and introduced to the audience.

Chaos in local film industry clouds film festival in Delhi

every year. But industry statistics

rated only five per cent of the movies released in 1988 as blockbusters. Another five per cent were average hits, and 10 per cent broke even, according to figures published in Indian Cinema 1988, an annual analysis.

And declining audiences, mostly due to the popularity of television and videos, are only a part of the problem.

Film critic T. M. Ramachandran also blames the "financial chaos" on high taxes, stars' escalating salaries and raw stock prices.

"The prices of every commodity required for film-making... have escalated to such an extent that no producer worth the name is willing to stake his reputation and his money on a new film," Ramachandran said in an article in Indian Cinema.

The chaos is most apparent in Bombay, the centre for the production of Hindi-language films, most of which are song-and-dance extravaganzas with

every year. But industry statistics rated only five per cent of the movies released in 1988 as blockbusters. Another five per cent were average hits, and 10 per cent broke even, according to figures published in Indian Cinema 1988, an annual analysis.

By Raju Gopalakrishnan

NEW DELHI, India, (AP): India's movie industry, increasingly threatened by spiralling costs and dwindling audiences, is hoping this year's annual film festival will help revitalize interest.

About 100 movie stars, directors and producers attended the Jan 10 inauguration of the 12th International Film Festival of India, taking breaks from hundreds of movies currently in production across the country.

"The film festival is helpful for business," said T.R. Sharma, a movie distributor and exhibitor. "Movies are bought and sold, people get ideas for new projects and audiences are enthusiastic, at least for some time."

The enthusiasm is badly needed for India's tottering film industry, which, as always, is running at a frantic pace, but doesn't seem to be going anywhere.

After 25 years of production, only half the films now launched are completed, two-thirds of those completed are released, and 80 per cent of those recorded losses last year.

India is the world's most prolific movie-making nation, churning out more than 800 titles

It's tough being Priscilla Presley

By Ivor Davis

THERE she is on the front pages of the supermarket tabloids, predictably sandwiched between headlines trumpeting Michael Douglas' secret romance with an X-rated star and Roseanne Barr's declaration that she is overweight — and proud of it.

What would the tabloids do without Priscilla Presley and her high-profile daughter Lisa Marie? "Lisa Marie Leaves Husband After One Month," booms one headline. Another reads: "Lisa Marie Defiant as Terrified Priscilla Warns Her: 'You're Risking the Life of Your Unborn Baby.'"

Heavy stuff — but such are the burdens of Presley. So it is not surprising when she shows up to discuss her role in the recently released comedy, *The Naked Gun*, from the Files of Police Squad that Paramount Studio's press people repeat, "Please, no questions about Elvis and Lisa Marie." (Ironically, not long after Presley met the press she and Lisa Marie spilled all to Life magazine.)

Fine, so what do we grill her about? It is like interviewing Prince Charles and not being able to mention Lady Diana. And if anyone dares utter the forbidden names, will Presley walk out?

In a Hollywood hotel the 43-year-old actress is surprisingly sanguine, sweet and friendly — quickly dispelling any preconceived notions that she would be difficult and defensive. She seems relaxed as she settles into a big, comfortable chair.

Business

Naked Gun from the makers of *Airplane* (1980) — Jerry and David Zucker, Jim Abrahams and Pat Proft — is doing brisk holiday business. Full of sight gags and silly jokes, it will win no Oscars for Presley, who plays Jane Spencer, the dippy girlfriend of a hit man (Ricardo Montalban).

Presley recently ended a five-year run on "Dallas" as Jenna

Wade, co-host with Burgess Meredith and Jim Stafford of the TV documentary series "Those Amazing Animals" (1980-81) and appeared opposite Michael Landon in the 1983 TV film *Love Is Forever*. Last year she produced the TV miniseries *Elvis and Me*, based on her 1985 best seller of the same title.

She can also be seen doing a tongue-in-cheek TV commercial with 19-year-old Lisa Marie, who recently married 24-year-old musician Daniel Keough and is expecting her first baby early this year.

In the Oldsmobile TV ad Lisa Marie says: "You know how Momma. You bring home a guy and they put their foot down. You come home a little late and they put their foot down. The camera cuts to a shot of Lisa Marie climbing into a new Oldsmobile driven by her mother. Then Lisa Marie says with a grin: 'I get into this great new car... and what does she do?'"

As they speed down the beach, Presley answers: "I put my foot down."

"It was fun doing the Oldsmobile commercial with Lisa Marie," says Presley, not at all put out to be discussing her daughter, "because we always wanted to work together. But in the past couple of years nothing came up until this one. It was a project we both felt good about."

We had some say over how we wanted to do it, so it worked out well for both of us."

Working

Presley, like many working mothers, now has to contend with juggling her role as actress with that of mother bringing up baby. (Presley has a 2-year-old son Navarone Anthony with live-in boyfriend Brazilian film producer Marco Garibaldi, 33).

"When I shot *Naked Gun* I took Navarone on the set with me all day," she says. "He is my priority. When Lisa Marie was growing up she was my first concern and consideration. I've learned a lot as a working parent. There was a time when things stressed me out. Now I don't take



Priscilla Presley (right) shares an afternoon of fun, romance and mustard with Leslie Nielsen in the *Naked Gun*.

them so seriously."

What is in the cards for the actress, whose main claim to fame is that she moved in with Elvis Presley when she was 16, married him at 22 and bore his only child a year later? She is still something of a novice when it comes to meaty acting parts.

"I wanted to do a comedy after five years of drama on Dallas and the drama in my life," she says without elaborating.

"Movies are the direction in which I want to go. I would like to do a couple of pictures a year; I had no time in TV."

"What I liked best about this movie is that it is a spoof of so-called glamorous women," she continues. "I enjoyed making fun of glamour. We all take it too seriously. It is refreshing for a change to do a movie just for laughs."

Different

Presley says she is a great fan of actress Kathleen Turner. "She has made great choices in her career and has done different types of roles from *Body Heat* to *Peggy Sue Got Married* to *Crimes of Passion*. You never know what she will do next. I want to take chances and not be stuck in one role."

Naked Gun producer Robert Weiss makes no bones about it. He says he hired Presley because he felt her name would boost box-office receipts. "People are curious about her," he says.



Priscilla Presley: her claim to fame was being married to Elvis Presley

"They haven't seen her in a (feature) film. And everyone's expectations will be to see her in a dramatic role, whereas this movie is so different from what you might think she would do."

During the shooting of *Naked Gun* Weiss says he and the cast and crew were curious about Presley's private life. However, they treated her gently, especially when the many stories and jokes stating that Elvis Presley is not dead began circulating.

"We didn't know how much ribbing she could stand, so we were careful about it," says Weiss. "I thought she would be

sick of hearing about the latest rumours."

When someone, unable to hold back, asked Presley to tell them something about Elvis, the actress said simply that she had put it all in her book "Elvis and Me" (Putnam).

Is there a follow-up to *Elvis and Me*? "At this point it is too soon to write another one," she says. "Maybe I'll do it a few years down the line. I would like to pick up where I left off. It would be rewarding and educational because it shows what we learn during our trials and tribulations."

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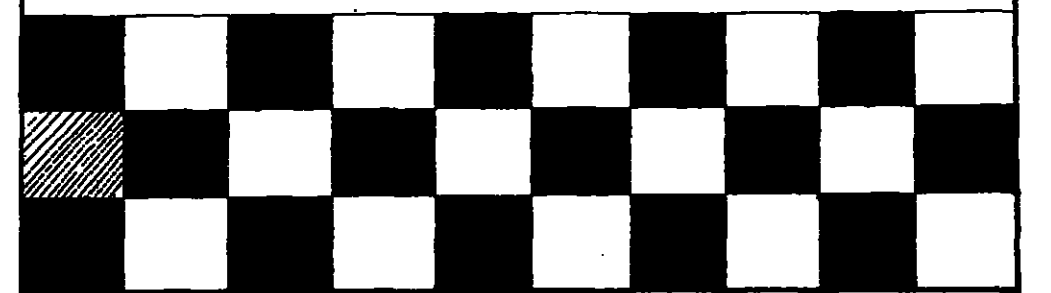
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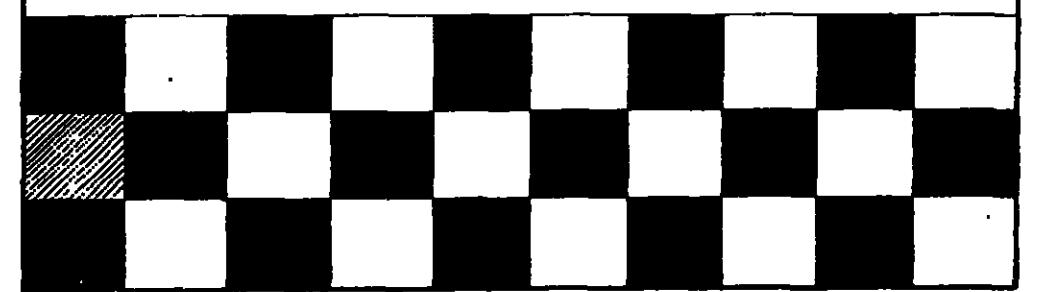
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Market sometimes cool to new presidents

Bush to bring new touch to tackle some old problems

NEW YORK, Jan 21, (AP): If the stock market is going to do well in the first year of George Bush's presidency, it will have to give him a warmer welcome than it has accorded the past several newcomers to the White House.

In the 1960s, when President Nixon took office, the market dropped about 14 per cent.

After his successor, Gerald Ford, was sworn in in August 1974, the Dow Jones industrial average went into a 200-point swoon in less than two months.

Greeted

Jimmy Carter, in 1977, was greeted with a 10 per cent decline. Even the arrival of Ronald Reagan, with his immense popularity on Wall Street, was

followed by a seven per cent loss in 1981.

It is a generally accepted view in the financial world that this tendency is more than coincidence.

A change of command presumably begets uncertainty among investors, who pull back until they become familiar with a new administration.

Furthermore, new presidents often use their early months in office to take tough measures that would be politically difficult or awkward at any other time.

And, as it happens, 1969, 1974 and 1981 — though not 1977 — were recession years.

As 1989 begins, the economy is growing, with few signs of a busi-

ness slump any time soon. Stock prices have rallied in the weeks leading up to Bush's inauguration, aided by hopes that he would bring a new touch to dealing with some old problems.

Nevertheless, Wall Streeters are watching closely to see if past patterns repeat themselves.

Said Suresh Bhurud, chief investment strategist at Oppenheimer and Co., "1989 is likely to be a very difficult year for stocks and bonds."

The US budget deficit is no longer improving. The US has become a net debtor, currently owing \$400 billion to the rest of the world.

"Capacity utilisation is very tight in the manufacturing sec-

tor, and labour shortages are beginning to surface. And there is too much debt in all sectors of the economy."

Stocks shrugged off such worries in the past week. In fact, the week's best showing came on Wednesday, in the face of a government report that showed a larger-than-expected increase in the US foreign trade deficit.

The Dow Jones Average of 30 industrials closed Friday at 2,235.36, up 9.29 from the week before.

Rose

The New York Stock Exchange Composite Index rose 1.58 to 161.16, the Nasdaq Composite Index for the over-the-counter market gained 4.53 to

391.62, and the American Stock Exchange Market Value Index was up 3.59 at 319.52.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 161.40 million shares a day, up from 153.57 million the week before.

There has been much talk on Wall Street of late that Bush may prove more adroit than most chief executives at working with a Congress dominated by the opposing party.

In particular, hopes seem to have increased that a constructive plan for dealing with the budget deficit can be worked out.

"The prevailing level of optimism about good things happening in Washington provides a good chance for dis-

appointment, in my view," said Greg Smith at Prudential-Bache Securities Inc.

"We must keep in mind that the pace of Congress doesn't match Wall Street's. The certified optimists in Washington feel investors could see action on the budget deficit by April or May at the earliest."

Record

"That is still a long time away for Wall Streeters."

"The stock market does not usually react well to newly elected presidents," Smith concluded. But the past record suggests, he added, that "after the president had about six months to settle in, the market usually likes what it is seeing."

Iran and Italy sign economic accord

TEHRAN, Jan 21, (OPECNA): Iran and Italy signed an economic accord this week under which the former will increase its crude oil exports to Italy to 200,000 BPD.

The agreement, which was signed in Rome by Iranian Minister of Mines and Metals Mohammed Reza and Italian Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero, also provides for an increase in the volume of non-oil products by Italian companies.

It also calls for completion of petrochemical units awarded to Italy earlier and allocation of special credit to Iranian companies to expand the volume of bilateral trade exchanges.

Under the accord, Italy will help build two power stations in Isfahan with a total capacity of 640 MW, arrange transfer of technical know-how and complete the construction of the Mobarakeh Steel Complex.

Co-operation

Meanwhile, a letter of understanding for political, economic, and cultural co-operation between Iran and Poland was signed in Warsaw on Wednesday. The document, which was finalised at the end of two rounds of talks between an Iranian delegation led by Prime Minister Hussein Musavi and Polish Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski, defines the general framework for future co-operation between the two countries.

According to the letter of understanding, Poland will increase its oil purchases from Iran. It also calls for transfer of technology and execution of joint projects. The letter, emphasising a balance in bilateral trade, deals with various aspects of economic and industrial co-operation.

An agreement on cultural and scientific co-operation was also signed.

Brazil may have to declare another debt moratorium

SAO PAULO, Jan 21, (Reuters): President Jose Sarney said in an interview published today that Brazil would declare a new moratorium on its foreign debt if it was unable to meet obligations to creditors.

Sarney told the O Estado de Sao Paulo newspaper that the government would not rule out declaring a moratorium on Brazil's \$115 billion debt, or at least using this possibility as a way to pressure creditors during negotiations.

"The payment of the foreign debt is a logical question. If there's money, pay. If there's no money, don't pay," Sarney said.

Agreement

Brazil declared a moratorium on \$67 billion of its commercial debt on February 1987 but ended it last year after reaching a new agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

Speculation that Brazil was on the verge of a new debt moratorium was fuelled by statements by Finance Minister Mafelton Nobrega that Brazil could suspend interest payments if reserves fell to a critical level.

In the interview, Sarney said Brazil's level of reserves was at a "difficult point."

"The creditors know the situation and they know better than anyone that the payments will have to remain within the limits of our reality. There is no magic," the president said.

The Finance Ministry has said the country's reserves are about \$5 billion. Bankers estimate them at \$4 billion.

The debt problem has also come to the fore since the government last week launched a new economic austerity plan designed to heat inflation of nearly 1,000 per cent.

Business inventories on the rise

Optimism in the dollar market boosts equities

DESPITE strong co-ordinated central bank intervention dollar sentiment remained positive and failed to be dented by the worse than anticipated trade numbers. Only decisive action by the Bundesbank in raising its interest rates late on Thursday night did the dollar eventually ease back.

However over the week as a whole the US unit made further advances to end the week at Y128 and DM1.84, according to NIK weekly market report.

After a weak start equities were boosted by optimism in the dollar market with bond prices following in tandem.

Business inventories increased by a seasonally adjusted 0.4 per cent (\$2.97 billion) to \$753.56 billion in November compared with a revised less than 0.1 per cent (\$327 million) rise in the previous month. This was lower than the market forecast of 0.7 per cent.

Merchandise trade shrank to a \$12.5 billion deficit in November from a \$10.35 billion deficit in October. This was worse than the \$9.5 billion forecast.

Merchandise exports fell an adjusted 2.3 per cent in November to \$27.18 billion compared to \$27.7 billion in October. The

market was expecting a slightly lower fall to \$27.6 billion.

Merchandise imports rose an adjusted 4.2 per cent in November to \$39.69 billion which was higher than the market forecast of \$37.1 billion and better than the previous month's figure of \$36.6 billion.

Industrial production rose a slightly higher than expected seasonally adjusted 0.3 per cent in December after a revised 0.4 per cent rise in the previous month. On a year-on-year basis, industrial production grew by 4.7 per cent.

Capacity utilisation increased as forecast to 84.2 per cent in December compared with 84.1 per cent in November and 82.4 per cent a year ago.

Confidence

Consumer prices rose 0.3 per cent in December which was the same as the previous month, and lower than the 0.4 per cent forecast. Consumer prices increased by 4.4 per cent for the year.

The markets present underlying confidence in the dollar stems from raised expectations that the new US administration, more aware of the financial market vulnerability, is prepared to

achieve consensus measure to effectively tackle the twin budget and trade deficits.

The firmer monetary stance and anticipation of a compromised fiscal reduction plan has provided adequate incentive to investors previously under invested in dollar assets to reassess their portfolio. With no major data releases over the coming week we expect this relatively favourable dollar environment to continue.

However this "honeymoon" period for the new administration is likely to be fairly short-lived with the markets once again focussing their attention on the painfully slow process of adjustment to the global trade and economic imbalances.

The deterioration in the US trade figures and record Japanese surplus and buoyant export performance in West Germany provides an underlying cause for concern. "We therefore continue to anticipate that following a period of dollar firmness the markets reassessment of the situation will result in a necessary corrective downward adjustment."

"Although we believe that inflationary trends have yet to

subside the dollar's strength gives little cause for the Fed to firm policy in the immediate future."

"However, we anticipate that the next move in money market rates will continue to be upwards."

Trading ranges for the coming week are: Y125-130 and DM1.80-1.87.

Financial markets focussed last week on better than expected domestic figures and were also attracted by the rising trend of the dollar. Sterling could not compete against the strong US unit, but supported by high interest rates it gained ground against the DM to another 2 1/2 year high at DM3.28.

The SBR registered a strong £2.1 billion surplus in December and industrial production and average earnings figures for November suggest that the economy is slowing down and that rises in UK base rates have finally reduced consumer spending.

Pressure

Lower economic figures put downward pressure on money market rates and as a consequence bonds moved ahead. Investors took an optimistic view of UK numbers and equities

were sent higher, in line with Wall Street. The FTSE 100 broke through the 1900 level. Sterling ended the week at £/£1.76 and DM3.26.

Retail sales fell a provisional seasonally adjusted 0.1 per cent in December compared with the 0.4 per cent rise expected. Over the year, retail sales increased by 5.2 per cent.

Public sector borrowing requirement in December was in surplus by a slightly higher than expected £2.1 billion following a revised £260 million surplus in the previous month.

Average earnings rose 8.75 per cent in the year to November, down from nine per cent a month before.

Retail prices increased by a lower than forecast 0.3 per cent in December, giving an annual growth rate of 6.8 per cent as compared to the 0.5 per cent rise in November.

Money supply — MO increased 0.9 per cent in December bringing the year on year rate to 8.5 per cent. M3 rose 2.3 per cent at the end of 1988 to bring the yearly increase to 20.2 per cent. M4 increased 1.9 per cent. December 1988 to a yearly rise of 17.4 per cent.

Mitterrand friend involved in insider trading scandal

PARIS, Jan 21, (Reuters): The French daily Le Monde said today a close friend of President Francois Mitterrand was involved in an insider share-trading scandal that is rocking French financial life.

Le Monde said in a front-page report that Roger-Patrice Pelat had bought 50,000 shares in a US company days before it was taken over by state-owned aluminium producer Pechiney.

Resigned

A top aide of Finance Minister Pierre Berezgoy resigned yesterday after allegations he was involved in the scandal. Alain Boubill had denied the allegations.

Pelat was unavailable for comment today.

Le Monde, which is close to the Socialist government, said Mitterrand was presented with a report on his friend's alleged involvement in share buying when he returned from a brief visit to Bonn yesterday evening.

The daily said Pelat had already acknowledged buying 10,000 shares in the US firm

Triangle Industries Inc before Pechiney completed the takeover.

"To this should be added 40,000 other shares bought, this time in a concealed way, through an account" with a bank in Lausanne, Switzerland, the paper said.

Concern

Le Monde said rumours of the secret report spread through senior government circles yesterday had caused considerable concern because of Mitterrand's close personal ties with Pelat.

The paper said the only doubt about the report was that Pelat's son has the same first name as his father.

"Through his son, or on his own initiative, M. Pelat turns out not to be a secondary buyer," Le Monde added.

Boubill, Berezgoy's chief of staff, resigned yesterday saying he wanted to defend himself against rumours and media comment accusing him of involvement in the scandal.

Boubill immediately began

legal proceedings against a newspaper and two magazines which had said he may have leaked word of the takeover.

Imprisoned

Mitterrand and Pelat were imprisoned together during World War Two and fought with the same resistance group in France after they escaped.

Pelat is one of Mitterrand's close friends who accompany the 72-year-old President on his almost daily strolls through Paris.

Le Monde said Mitterrand had stopped meeting Pelat since his alleged involvement in the scandal surfaced three weeks ago.

Pelat has refused all contact with the media since initial allegations were made that he bought 10,000 Triangle shares.

Boubill broke his silence in an interview with the conservative daily Figaro today, saying he would not let himself be "pushed around" and would not be a scapegoat in a scandal that is being exploited by French conservatives.

Iraq and Iran looking to India for reconstruction work

NEW DELHI, Jan 21, (KUNA): Iraq and Iran have approached India for rehabilitating their refineries and petrochemical units that were damaged or destroyed during the eight-year-old Gulf war.

The government owned Engineering India Limited (EIL) and multinational company Tata have been asked by these two countries for assistance in this regard.

According to EIL source, a team of the company (EIL) has already visited Tehran to make on-the-spot survey and finalise its report.

Undertake

The Tata has started recruiting people to undertake reconstruction work in Iraq. Tata has sought assistance of the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) for rehabilitation work.

Tatas will get skilled workers to start its work in Iraq. Initial report said that at least 300 highly trained skilled personnel are required for the job.

Both Iraq and Iran are making efforts to reopen their damaged refineries and petrochemical units. But both of them face financial constraints.

In the case of Iran, the country

earns \$10 billion from export of oil while major portion of earning is spent on import of food-stuff, agriculture equipment and machinery. It is possible that Iran will offer payment through counter trade.

In both countries there is hostility towards West, and they are looking towards China, India and Japan for reconstruction programme.

Performance

However, in view of the fact that Indians had given good performance in Iraq in construction field, the wind appears to be in India's favour to get prestigious job of repairing the oil refineries.

Sources here said that at the time of war, a petrochemical complex was under construction in Iran in Abadan area with the assistance of Japan. The work was stopped in 1985. It is now expected to start soon.

The plants in Tabriz needs to be rehabilitated. And another plant at Arakan will also come up for repairs, the sources said.

In addition to petrochemical units, Indian company EIL will help in reopening of refineries.

Co-operation between producers necessary for market stability

Subroto sees \$18 oil price by year-end

VIENNA, Jan 21, (OPECNA): OPEC Secretary-General Dr Subroto predicted today that the price of oil would move to a "sustainable" level of \$18 per barrel by the end of the year.

"I see oil prices averaging \$16 to \$17 with a move to a sustainable \$18 per barrel by the end of the year," he told a seminar.

Spot market prices have edged up, with OPEC Gulf crudes trading around \$16, since an accord by the group on new output quotas to cut excess supply took effect on Jan 1.

Prices last year got below \$12.

Complying

Subroto said all members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries were complying with new quotas while world demand this year would be at least two per cent up on 1988.

He also said the world might be entering a new period of stable oil prices after the turmoil of recent years.

Prices might rise in line with the inflation to maintain a real oil price of \$18, Subroto predicted.

He said he hoped that a meeting of technical experts from OPEC and several producers from outside the group, being held in London next week, would be the first of many regular meetings to lay the groundwork for co-operation on keeping prices stable.

Warned

It would also discuss the possibility of talks between ministers of OPEC and the non-OPEC sellers.

The secretary-general warned that "to the discerning eye, the potential for a tight market situation now exists," but added that OPEC had decided that the evolving market structure should be managed "to the advantage of all producers and consumers."

Subroto declared: "Our objective henceforth is to work towards a greater convergence between the evolution of market prices and the fundamentals of oil supply and demand," pointing out that a "balance in fundamentals" would lead to "sta-

ble markets and predictable prices."

He said it was OPEC's projection that world oil demand, excluding the centrally planned economies, would maintain "vigorous growth" this year, rising to 49.70 million BPD, two per cent higher than in 1988.

He said that in 1989, the global economy looked set to "sustain the vibrant performance" of the year before. Developing countries, in particular, were expected to maintain a growth rate of 2.4 per cent.

The OPEC head, while referring to next week's OPEC-non-OPEC technical experts' meeting in London, said it would "explore in more detail a collective assessment of the international oil market and ways and means of achieving a balance in its structure."

"It is my hope that many more such meetings will follow and the community of interests between oil producers and consumers will be accepted throughout the international oil market" forming the basis of "an orderly evolution of prices and market balances in the short to medium

term," he added.

The secretary-general said the OPEC strategy was based on three considerations. One, the organisation was no longer willing to play the role of "residual supplier." Two, the pricing structure should be "predictable and orderly." Three, co-operation between oil producers was necessary for oil market stability.

Evidence

Subroto said there was evidence of the need to "reject a scenario of competition and confrontation" and the "willingness to share the burden of market stabilisation, characterised by the meeting of OPEC and some non-OPEC ministers in Vienna in April 1988, as well as the emergence of a wider international consensus on the need to maintain a stable oil market."

Subroto said instead of ad hoc offers of production cuts, all producers should agree on an "objective and equitable basis of sharing sacrifices in the market when necessary and of garnering the benefits of market recovery when these are available."

He warned of the "dire" consequences of "market conflict,"

as the "fallout from the events of 1986 shows." He said: "In facing the future, the OPEC strategy is to enlist the support of all market participants in the crusade for the restoration of a stable oil market."

Demand

He forecast that the demand for OPEC oil would grow rapidly from the middle of next decade, rising to about 26 million BPD and, thereafter, to about 31 million BPD by the end of the century. To sustain such demand, the OPEC production capacity would need to be as high as 30 million to 35 million BPD, he observed.

Subroto said: "OPEC alone appears to be in a position to assure the world of long-run oil supply security. Only an OPEC that is strong and unified would be able to play such a role with confidence and stature. Such an OPEC would remain resolved not to be swayed from a steadfast commitment to a stable market. The world is better off with OPEC as a partner, one that ensures the availability of oil at equitable and predictable prices."

World Business Summary

Iraq offers more tourist facilities for sale

BAGHDAD, Jan 21, (AP): The government has offered more of its tourist facilities for sale in a new bid to privatise its tourist sector, according to a Baghdad daily today. Al Iraq newspaper reported that the government has offered 74 tourist facilities for sale to the private sector, including major Baghdad hotels and resort villages in northern Iraq. Al Iraq, published by the only legal political group, the National Front, quoted the government official in charge of selling the tourist facilities as saying that 36 tourist projects will be sold to companies set up specifically to run them, while 38 projects will be sold to individual entrepreneurs. The official, Abdul Tawab Mullah Hawash, said major projects which need larger investments will be sold to newly established companies, while small projects which could be bought by individual businessmen will be turned over to them. He did not say how much money will be paid by the private sector to takeover the projects — mainly hotels, restaurants and tourist villages. The government last week sold two of its major Baghdad hotels including the prestigious Sheraton to a private company. Last year the government abolished the State Tourism Authority and decided to sell all its assets to the private sector. Hawash said the government would take shares in the new companies but will not be represented on their boards of directors. "Our policy is not to run these facilities or even be represented at their boards," he said.

Foreign investment in Mexico fell 18pc in '88

MEXICO CITY, Jan 21, (UPI): Foreign investment in Mexico fell 18 per cent in 1988, but government officials said yesterday they would seek ways to encourage investment without changing the disputed foreign investment law. A document released on Thursday by the National Foreign Investment Commission (CNIE) said that in 1988 some \$3.1 billion in foreign investments were approved compared with \$3.8 billion the year before, a \$700 million decrease. Carlos Camacho Gao, director of foreign investment for the Trade Ministry, said the government was seeking ways to make foreign investment applications and deals more "flexible" by streamlining the bureaucracy. He said the present foreign investment law is "adequate." The current law limits foreign ownership in Mexico to 49 per cent, but the CNIE is empowered to make exceptions for those businesses that are not considered to be strategic. The CNIE has been liberal in making such exceptions under the previous government, but many foreign businessmen have expressed a wariness regarding the Mexican law. Philippe Clement, a French trade official, said that businessmen "fear Mexico" because they don't know how their investments are protected by the law. A Western diplomat, who asked not to be identified, said the new administration of Carlos Salinas de Gortari may try to change the law. "Former President Miguel de La Madrid was never able to change the foreign investment law because of political pressure. We've had indications that Salinas might change the law sometime during his presidency," the diplomat said. The CNIE document said that for the first time, 70 per cent of foreign investment has been targeted at the service sector and only 30 per cent has been channelled into industry. The document also said that the Trade Ministry might revive the "swap" programme this year.

Algeria denies minister's remark on oil price

ALGERIA, Jan 21, (Reuters): Algeria denied today a newspaper report that Energy Minister Saddek Boussemma opposed the price of oil rising above \$18 a barrel. "It is certain the minister reaffirmed that the price level can only be decided by the OPEC conference but he never said he was against a price higher than \$18 a barrel," said an Energy Ministry spokesman quoted by the official news agency APS. The most important thing was to respect the decisions of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and defend the \$18 a barrel reference price, the spokesman added. The Sharjah newspaper Al Khaleej quoted Boussemma on Friday as saying Algeria would prefer an increase in production instead of prices as a means to guarantee oil market stability. "Our country will defend prices at \$18 a barrel but will oppose any increase above this level despite the current upward trend," Al Khaleej quoted him as saying. Oil prices have risen by about \$5 on reports that major OPEC producers are sticking to their latest production agreement. OPEC's prices committee is due to meet in March.

Civil aviation talks planned

BEIJING, Jan 21, (UPI): The United States and China open their first comprehensive civil aviation talks in nearly three years this week, with American officials seeking added regular flights, freer and cheaper charters and progress on a dispute over freight handling. A delegation headed by the state departments special negotiator for transportation issues is to arrive in Beijing later in the week for several days of talks. The group also includes officials of the US Transportation Department and American air carriers. The talks will be the first full consultations of civil aviation since 1986, based on the aviation agreement the two nations signed in 1979. Direct routes are now flown by the Chinese flag carrier, CAAC, and two American carriers — United and Northwest Airlines. US officials say the most pressing need is to increase passenger seats available on regular US-China routes, essentially meaning additional flights after accounting for aircraft size. Both American carriers are flying with at least 75 per cent to 90 per cent capacity on all flights and have reported overbooking problems, especially at the peak tourist season, from June to November. The Chinese carrier, civil aviation administration of China, would also gain flights in any agreed addition. But given its reputation for poor service, added American-carrier flights might actually decrease the number of passengers now forced to fly CAAC. US officials note progress also depends on delivery of new aircraft to the three airlines expected this spring and, more critically, obtaining landing rights at Tokyo's overburdened Narita airport, the regional hub where most US-Asia routes stop over.

A CLASS APART

Sunshine School

REGISTRATION is now taking place for the Academic Year 1989/1990.

SUNSHINE SCHOOL is an international school noted for the high standard of education offered at kindergarten, infant and junior level. The staff are a team of fully qualified British teachers, the curriculum includes French language, Computer Science, Language Development Specialist Teaching, as well as locally recruited Arabic/Islamic tutors.

The number of children in each class is kept to a minimum to enable the child to receive more individual attention and tuition.

The school can supply any further information, and you are cordially invited to call in and obtain our fully illustrated and informative prospectus.

Sunshine School
Salwa
Sector 7
Telephone No. 5621701/5622701

Market performance continues to be weak

Share prices turn mixed

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): The Alshall index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded last Wednesday an average of 40.54 points with an increase of 0.04 point, 0.1 per cent, over last week's average.

The Alshall index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 74.86 points with an increase of 1.05 point — 1.42 per cent — for the same period, a release by Alshall Economic Consultants said today.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 9.43 million shares at a daily average of 1.88 million shares with an increase of six per cent over the previous week's daily average of 1.78 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 5.60 million shares at a daily average of 1.12 million shares with an increase of 18 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.95 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD3.910 million at a daily average of KD0.782 million, a decrease of 16 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.932 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.354 million at a daily average of KD0.071 million, an increase of 29 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.055 million.

The market performance continued to be weak and mixed. So far dividends were declared for only two companies, Gulf Cables Company, which maintained its market price and Kuwait Computers Company. Other companies are expected to declare their financial results during the next few weeks.

The report said taking the present weak market into consideration we expect that all the companies will try hard to declare dividends not lower than last year's level.

Some of the companies might not be able to do so and others will try to make stock dividends due to the shortage of cash.

"We believe that making a stock dividend is a wrong policy unless it is needed as a capital increase to expand the company's activity. We believe that it is wrong for the companies to distribute dividends exceeding their abilities due to pressures as this will endanger their future," the report said.

For Kuwaiti shares market, the Banking Sector had the lead at 72 per cent of total trading against 60 per cent last week. The Commercial Bank ranked first in this sector at 29 per cent, followed by The National Bank of Kuwait at 19.3 per cent and Burgan Bank at 19 per cent.

The Services Sector came second at 11.5 per cent of which Kuwait Commercial Markets had 51 per cent, Mobile Telephone Systems at 47 per cent and Public Warehousing at 2 per cent. The Investment Sector came third at 8 per cent of which National Investment had 55 per cent, followed by Investment Pearl Kuwait at 32.5 per cent and Kuwait International Investment Company at 12.5 per cent.

For non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 69 per cent, followed by Umm Al Quain Cement at 11.5 per cent and Bahrain and Middle East Bank at 9 per cent.

Kuwait shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 18/01/89	Wednesday 11/01/89	points
Banking Sector	109.57	108.56	1.01
The National Bank	31.49	31.07	0.41
The Gulf Bank	23.95	23.08	0.87

Al Ahli Bank	34.12	33.64	0.48
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	34.20	34.20	—
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	30.95	30.95	—
Burgan Bank	26.26	26.26	—
Kuwait Finance House	78.61	78.61	—
Sector Index	46.76	46.32	0.44

Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	25.71	25.71	—
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	17.53	20.62	-3.09
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	76.19	79.37	-3.17
IFA	70.59	70.59	—
Commercial Facilities	120.00	120.00	—
National Investments	73.53	77.45	-3.92
Kuwait Investment Proj.	91.01	91.01	—
Sector Index	41.25	42.52	-1.27

Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	39.14	41.86	-2.72
Gulf Insurance Co.	27.69	27.69	—
Al Ahleia Insurance Co.	54.82	54.82	—
Warba Insurance Co.	68.73	68.73	—
Sector Index	40.27	41.89	-1.42

Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	22.94	22.94	—
United Realty	8.49	8.38	0.11
National Real Estate	40.21	40.21	—
Sector Index	17.37	17.31	0.06

Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	17.38	17.38	—
Refrigeration Indust.	88.94	88.94	—
Gulf Cables	113.13	114.16	-1.03
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	84.44	84.44	—
Sector Index	35.86	35.97	-0.12

Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	168.48	168.48	—
Kuwait Cinema Co.	8.56	8.56	—
Public Warehousing Co.	67.68	67.68	—
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	34.95	35.95	-1.00
Mobile Telephone Syst.	309.52	300.00	9.52
Sector Index	57.16	56.28	0.88

Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	48.41	48.41	—
United Fisheries	9.92	10.91	-0.99
Kuwait United Poultry	83.61	83.61	—
Kuwait Food Co.	67.82	67.82	—
Sector Index	42.31	42.65	-0.34

Overall Index	40.54	40.50	0.04
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Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies Index			
	Wednesday 18/01/89	Wednesday 11/01/89	points
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	95.17	95.17	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	100.61	98.71	1.90
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	90.48	87.62	2.86
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	53.03	52.27	0.76
Umm Al Quain Cement	16.87	16.87	—
Gulf Medical Projects	18.94	18.94	—
Total Index	18.94	73.81	0.05

—Base Period 31/12/1983.			
—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.			

US interest rates expected to rise further

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (KUNA): Major industrial countries enter 1989 with robust economic activity, concern about rising inflation, particularly in some countries, and still significant external imbalances, according to a specialised report here today.

Given the environment, further interest rate increases in the short-term, particularly in the US are expected, according to an overview by the Kuwait International Investment Company.

In the foreign exchange markets, the report predicted, the dollar will remain vulnerable, moving in a volatile manner around a downward trend.

This will be the case until there is substantial improvement in the US saving-investment ratio and, therefore, the current account, it said.

In the longer-term, it will become inevitable to alleviate potential interest rate pressures in a number of countries, including the US, through fiscal adjustment, the report said, adding the step will reduce the burden on monetary policy to contain inflation.

The vigour of economic activity in the major industrial countries is due to the fact that the impact of several positive developments outweighed the previously envisaged negative impact of the crash, of October 1987, which did not materialise anyhow.

Contrary to what most economists thought following Black Monday, the economic situation in industrial countries turned out to be extremely favourable in the sense of achieving strong economic activity at the cost of only moderately rising inflation.

Concern persists over the fact that the US current account deficit seems to remain in excess of \$100 billion in the absence of strongly-reinforced adjustment.

The concern is particularly about the feasibility of smooth financing of the deficit which means an increasing share of world wealth placed in the US.

This will crucially depend on market confidence that inflation will be kept in check, US trade performance will continue to improve and policies generally will be consistent with a progressive narrowing of the current account deficit.

The OECD estimates the US current account deficit for 1988 \$132 billion, down from \$154 billion in 1987.

IDB gives \$18m in loans to Algeria and Egypt

JEDDAH, Jan 21, (OPECNA): The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has extended \$18 million in two loans to Algeria and Egypt.

The first loan, totalling \$8 million, will finance an Algerian foreign trade transaction for the import of petrochemicals from the Saudi Arabian Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC).

This brings total IDB lending to Algeria since September 1988 to \$33 million.

The second loan of \$10 million was extended to the Egyptian Investment Bank to cover equipment purchases for development projects.

The credits were signed here on Wednesday by Algerian and Egyptian representatives.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.080	---	---	---	---	---
GULF BANK	0.270	0.380	0.380	0.380	50000	1
COMMERCIAL BK	0.270	0.280	0.280	0.280	80000	4
AHLI BANK	0.555	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.M.E	0.390	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.390	---	---	---	---	---
BURGAN BANK	0.265	0.270	0.270	0.270	10000	1
K.F. HOUSE	0.520	0.520	0.520	0.520	35000	4
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KUT INV. CO.	0.102	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.140	---	---	---	---	---
COM.FACILITIES	0.480	---	---	---	---	---
ASHIAN INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.096	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KUT	0.096	---	---	---	---	---
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KUT INSURANCE	0.720	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.360	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
WARBA INS. CO.	0.400	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KUT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.076	---	---	---	---	---
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.202	---	---	---	---	---
SALAH R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KUT R.E.I. CON	0.000	---	---	---	---	---

INDUSTRY SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NAT IND. CO.	0.550	---	---	---	---	---
KUT M.P. IND.	0.320	---	---	---	---	---
KUT CEMENT CO.	0.255	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.405	---	---	---	---	---
K.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	1.100	---	---	---	---	---
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.190	---	---	---	---	---
CONT. MARINE	0.280	---	---	---	---	---
K.S.H. REP. CO.	0.045	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
K.N.C. CO.	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
KUT HOTELS CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.134	---	---	---	---	---
COM.MKT. CHMP.	0.017	0.017	0.017	0.017	1120000	4
MOBILE TELE.	0.325	0.325	0.325	0.325	10000	1
KUT COMPUTER	0.156	0.152	0.152	0.152	20000	1
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.238	---	---	---	---	---
UNITO FISHERIES	0.140	---	---	---	---	---
UNITO POULTRY	0.228	---	---	---	---	---
KUT FOODS	0.295	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NEW-FOOD SECTOR						
B.W. INTER. BK	0.069	0.070	0.070	0.070	1200000	9
B.W.M. EAST. BK	0.053	---	---	---	---	---
UNITO GULF BK	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
COAST INVEST.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	80000	1
A.G. INV. CORP	0.035	0.035	0.035	0.035	160000	1
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	---	---	---	---	---
GULF MEDICAL	0.030	---	---	---	---	---

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
FINANCIAL SECTOR						
GULF INTL INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
ARAB INT CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
SHARJAH INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
R.K. WHITE CMNT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
AJMAN CEMENT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-FUJAIHAIN CEMT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
D-GULF CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---

Kuwait dinar deposits ease as salary payments boost liquidity

KUWAIT, Jan 21, (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposits eased today as month-end government salary payments boosted liquidity, dealers said.

The short dates were well offered at one per cent, and one-week deposits traded at three per cent.

Business focused on the one-month, which dealt at 6-1/2, 6-5/8 and 6-3/4 per cent from 7-1/4 per cent on Thursday, and the two-month which traded at 7-1/8 per cent.

This means banks are borrowing from the interbank market at below the 7-1/2 per cent the Central Bank says they must pay on customer deposits of 30-90 days.

The fixed periods fell about 1/2 point to seven, 6-1/2 per cent for the one-month, 7-3/8, 6-7/8 per cent for the two-month, 7-5/8, 1/8 per cent for the three-month, 8-1/8, 7-5/8 per cent for the six-month and 8-1/4, 7-3/4 per cent for the one-year.

The dinar firmed against the dollar with the Central Bank dinar exchange rate at 0.28551/61 from Thursday's 0.28639/49.

and commercial bank spot rates at around 0.28560/70.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposits displayed a softer tone today in a very quiet market, with most traders sidelined due to the European weekend.

Dealers quoted spot-next funds at 9-3/4, 1/4 per cent, around 1/4 point down from Thursday's levels. Gulf banks are shut during the Muslim Friday weekend. One-week was also put at 9-3/4, 1/4.

Some fixed period rates were also marked lower due to the absence of demand, normal for Saturday and Sunday when many major offshore players are absent.

Quotes for the one-month slipped to 9-1/2, 5/16 per cent from 9-9/16, 7/16. Three-months was steady at 9-5/8, 7/16 per cent while six-months declined to 9-11/16, 1/2 per cent from 9-3/4, 5/8. The one-year was steady at 9-13/16, 1/16.

The spot riyal eased to 3.7500/03 to the dollar from quotes of 3.7496/500 on Thursday.

AMMAN

ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	OPNG	CLS56
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	1.67	1.75
ARAB BANK	2.07	2.08
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.30	4.30
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41
ARAB INSURANCE	1.05	1.00
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.81	0.77
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.21	1.25
ARAB INT. HOTELS	0.60	0.63
ARAB JOR/INVST/BK	2.50	2.45
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.36	0.37
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	2.30	2.36
ARAB PHARMA/CHIEH	0.76	0.75
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.90	16.20
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	30.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.61	0.64
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.22	2.23
DARCO INVEST/HOLS.	0.83	0.87
FINANCE/CREDIT/COB	0.61	0.64
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	4.40	4.60
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.34	1.30
GENERAL MINING	1.45	1.50
HIMMEL MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND./MATCH JENCO	0.69	0.72
INDSTRL DEVLPT BNK	1.62	1.63
INDSTRL/COMM/AGR.	1.53	1.56
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INV.	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.95	0.92
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.61	0.64
ITERNED/RETEL/CH	1.43	1.71
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIAGRET	20.00	19.50
JOR CERAMIC FACT.	1.67	1.66
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.01	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.73	1.76
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.01	1.03
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.70	2.82
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.62	0.65
JOR LIN BRICK	0.23	0.23
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.66	2.66

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

HAWALLI, near the Tele. Exchange. One bedroom with dining, kitchen and tele. facilities for a small family or working girls. Rent KD85. Tele. 2409282, 2405995 Off. 2627643 Res. (AT1-45729-2)

SHAAB, Single room for a couple or spinster. Tele. Mr. Theo Fernandes 2417123/4/5 ext 27/31, 2420673 after 6 pm. (AT6-45718-3)

SALMIYA, near the Indian and Pakistani Schools. Sharing accommodation for 2 South Indian bachelors (non-smokers). Tele. 5610665, after 2 pm. (AT2-45741-3)

SALMIYA, near the Sultan Center. Rooms with water, electricity and tele. facilities for a couple or working girls. Rent KD50. Tele. 5740271, 2619478, after 3 pm. (AT2-45744-3)

KUWAIT City, Fahd Al Salem St. next to Hardee's, one independent room for one or two Indian bachelors to share with a Goan family. Rent KD70. Tele. Sequeira, 2410671, 8.30 am-12.30 pm, 4.30-7.00 pm. (AT2-45700-2)

For Rent

HALF of a new villa, CAC, with 4 bedrooms, 2 kitchens, 3 bathrooms, drawing and dining room, private entrance, garage and garden. Call the owner Mr. Nasser, 5638789, 2-10 pm. (AT2-45733-6)

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED to contact the owners of IBM RT PC or persons who are well-versed with the above system. Tele. 5637531, 10 am-2.30 pm. (AT2-45736-3)

NAME CHANGE

I, Sally Samuel, holder of Indian passport No. V 230058, hereby change my name to Sally Samuel Victor. (AT2-45742-2)

FOR SALE

Boats

23 FT cabin boat T-craft with 260 Chrysler V8 inboard engine and trailer. Extra options. KD1,600 ono. Tele. 5718189. (AT2-45735-3)

Cars

MERCEDES 280S, 1979, rust colour, fully automatic, with sunroof, in good condition. KD975. Tele. Mr. Ashlan, 4878197, any time answerphone. (AT6-45715-3)

MERCEDES 280 SLC, model Oct 1980, 72,000 kms, in excellent condition. KD4,200. Tele. 4732100 ext 356, after 4 pm. (AT6-45695-3)

VOLVO 244, manual, with AC and new paint, 42,000 kms, on new engine, in excellent condition. KD1550 ono. Tele. Mr. Robert 5382636 answerphone. (AT6-45708-3)

MERCEDES 500SEL Jan '81 model, one owner from new, well maintained and in good running condition. Tele. 4849339, 4841632, 5-7 pm. (AT1-45729-6)

CITROEN BX model 1986, automatic, red with AC, in excellent condition. KD1400, KD65 per month by instalments. Tele. 2525343, 5756888. (AT1-45726-3)

HONDA Accord, 1982, automatic, red, with AC and sunroof, in very good condition. KD900. Tele. Andy, 5385094. (AT2-45714-3)

CITROEN CX25 GTI, 1986 model, white, 33,000 kms. One owner since new. In excellent condition. KD2150. Tele. Mr. Abu Ammar, 2551044. (AT1-45718-3)

MITSUBISHI Pajero, 1982 model, 2-door, manual, stereo, in very good condition. KD1,200 or best offer. Tele. Mr. Klaus, off. 5651443, res. 5332356. (AT2-45737-2)

HOUSEHOLD, office furniture and electrical appliances will be sold on 26th January. Tele. 2424191, 1.30-3.30 pm only, Sunday to Wednesday. (AT6-45722-3)

GENERAL Electric washing machine, refrigerator, Hitachi small refrigerator. All are in good condition. Tele. 4739597. (AT2-45740-3)

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بستی انتخابات کے دوران منہ گمے سینکڑوں افراد زخمی

یہی دوسرے مسئلہ پر اس کتاب کے دوسرے باب سے ہے۔

DARTS

Members move off bottom

1989 CONTINUES to be a good year so far for Members, as the KBRC Monday Darts League team picked up their third point in two matches, and are now one point clear of Mishraf at the foot of the table. Their latest success came at the expense of Tanker Co., who were always behind, and had to produce a good performance in the final leg to take a point.

The main scoring feat, by Louie-Jorgenson, was memorable in that it didn't count. With 153 remaining and two treble 20's with his first two darts, a particularly weak attempt at scoring one to leave double 16, resulted in another treble 20 — and bust with 180 scored.

Straight As A Dai, at the top of the table, were held to a draw by 4th place Cuning Linguists, where Andy Wilson and Erik Christensen both scored two 140's. A great match as the players produced 20 scores of 100 or more between them.

Dai-A-Straights also won, 2-1, to go second in the ladies table behind Bandits. Cottar Hoose and Baggs both gained ground on the Dai's with 6-0 and 5-1 wins at the expense of Pacificists and Raganurffins. The highlight here a genuine 180 and a 140 for Steve Edwards as he beat Muffins skipper John Gowland.

In the other game Bandits shocked Exiles by taking a 3-1 lead, but faded, and settled for a 3-3 draw.

Earned
The KBRC Wednesday League is also looking as though possible changes are in store. Nobblers showed Soweto Slings to be within reach, as the 12th placed team earned a well deserved point against the leaders, and Nibblers took out Avengers 2-1, despite Julie Ellis' two scoring trebles, thanks to Jean Sefton's winning double.

H2O now have a potential one point advantage at the top thanks to a close 4-2 victory over Chuckers, who only narrowly missed a draw in the final leg. A 2-0 win also for H2O Ladies, as Julie Williams tried in vain to repeat last week's 140 score.

Match of the day saw 4th place Bulls Hitters edge past 2nd place Exiles in a close contest. Bulls kept their composure to take both Mickey Mouse games and the points. Revenge for MEE ladies as they pipped B.H. Ladies 2-1, to gain ground on the 2nd placed team. Mary Slattery scored 140, while there were trophy winning trophies for Sonard McAlister and Judith Cole. Files stay top after taking out Rondelettes 2-0, though Rondelles beat Dinar Soarers 4-2.

Shower of Tossers hopes received further setbacks this week, as Shipwrecks came away with a 3-3 draw and a 2-0 ladies win. Fintas Flyers couldn't quite match this, just falling 4-2 at Menage A Trois, though the Floosies upset MAT ladies 2-1 in a marathon affair.

Dark horses and most improved team of the season, Entente Cordiale, kept up the pressure with good 4-2 and 2-0 wins against Has Beans, as Julie Mitchelson scored 133.

Disaster strikes American yacht

MELBOURNE, Jan. 21. (Reuters): The radical winged-sail challenger for yachting's little America's Cup capsized and broke up today before its first race.

Wingmill from the Cabrillo Bay Yacht Club near Los Angeles was preparing to start the best-of-seven series against Australian defender the Edge II when it was battered by what race organisers said was a freak gust.

The breeze on the triangular 19.5 nautical mile course had built to around 18 knots, close to the 20-knot limit for the International Catamaran Challenge Trophy.

America's latest dance craze comes to Super Bowl

MIAMI, Jan. 20. (Reuters): On Super Bowl Sunday viewers from some 42 nations will likely get their first glimpse of the Ickey Shuffle — the dance step that may replace Michael Jackson's Moonwalk in American pop-culture.

The joyous post-touchdown celebration dance performed by Cincinnati Bengals' rookie running sensation Ickey Woods is sweeping the nation and should he score tomorrow they could be doing the Ickey Shuffle from Australia to Yugoslavia.

"I still can't believe what's happened with it," said Woods in a recent interview when told a retired Cincinnati choreographer was giving Ickey Shuffle classes.

"I'll be driving down the street

KUWAIT'S MOHAMMED KARAM AND HOSSAM SAYAFE 4TH IN DUBAI RACE

MacMillan and Al Tayer finish first

By Gail Seery

THE Dubai Powerboat Race finally took place on Friday in near perfect racing conditions, and was won without much difficulty by a 32ft Skater catamaran with two Johnson V8 engines, driven by Joseph MacMillan and Suhail Juma Al Tayer. The boat sped away from the start and quickly began to open a lead over its rivals, which was never unquestionable, but which was never really challenged either.

Second place was taken by Mohammed Al Sha'ali and Fraser S.G., and Howard Richard and Alan Winger were third home in a 24ft Skater with 2 Mercury 2.4 engines. The huge pack quickly strung out along the water, with an elite of six boats staying towards the front throughout.

All three leaders were heavily sponsored boats with especially imported professionals as drivers or throttlemen. In fourth place was Kuwait's Mohammed Karam and throttleman Hossam Al Sayafe — an excellent international debut for this pairing who effectively showed that Kuwait's racers do reach a good standard in this sport. Behind the duo were many professionals and also former winners of the event.

Fastest
Their yellow, United Arab Shipping Co. sponsored Tigerat is powered by 2.4 Mercury engines and is capable of speeds in the region of 95mph. Mohammed Karam had long been nominated as one of Kuwait's fastest drivers, and in this event proved once and for all that this victory in the first ever Kuwait powerboat race was not a flash in the pan.

Sayafe explained: "We did our best just to see what our position was — we found that we were fourth, and we pushed. Marmum was ahead, and Mohammed shouted, 'leave him, we are in a good position.' 'No, I shouted back, 'we must catch him, and we did.' They were later overtaken by Richard and Winger.

Ahmed Khalifa, the UAE rally champion, and Jafar Ali raced in Marmum, the yellow boat which won last year's race, but despite being among the top runners for much of the race, were unable to finish higher than sixth place, crewed by Mike Warner and Mazn Suhail.

Mike Warner and Mazn Suhail was later ruled out, as it had only completed two laps of the circuit. The sixty-five racers were divided into two groups — A and B, relating to the power of the boats. The leaders were also the overall winners of the race.



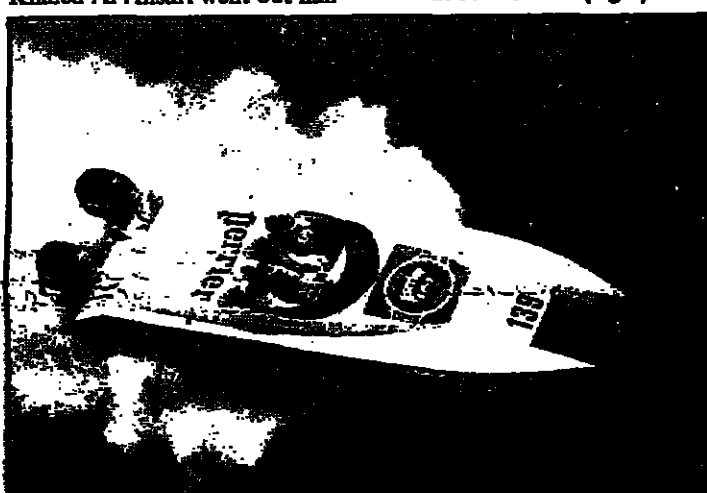
Al Tayer (left) and MacMillan with their trophy.

Group A relates to engines with power outputs of 2.4 or above, or modified racing engines. Group B, the class for boats with standard engines, was won by Alan Tong and Kirk Alan, with Kirk having flown in from America for the race. "We were a bit short on power to catch up with the 'A's, but we wanted to," said Kirk.

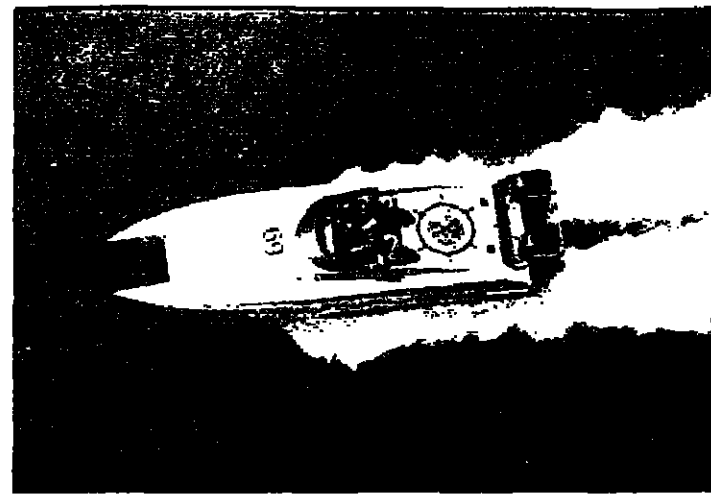
None of the other Kuwaiti entrants had a trouble free run, though Khalifa Al Qatami and Abdullah Al Badr in the Perrier boat, managed to keep going despite engine problems, and to finish within the prize placings, in 11th place in group B. This pair had been going well until half way through the race, and from the helicopter it certainly looked as if a good finishing position was in their grasp. However, suddenly the rpm dropped.

The pair was very disappointed at the outcome, and was correctly aware that a much better result should have been obtained.

Ahmed Al Ansari was one of the first racers away, and fulfilled predictions that he would be fast. However, bad luck struck him for the third time in a row, and he and his brother/throttleman Khaled Al Ansari went out half



Al Qatami and Al Badr: struggled home



Karam and Al Sayafe: make an excellent international debut

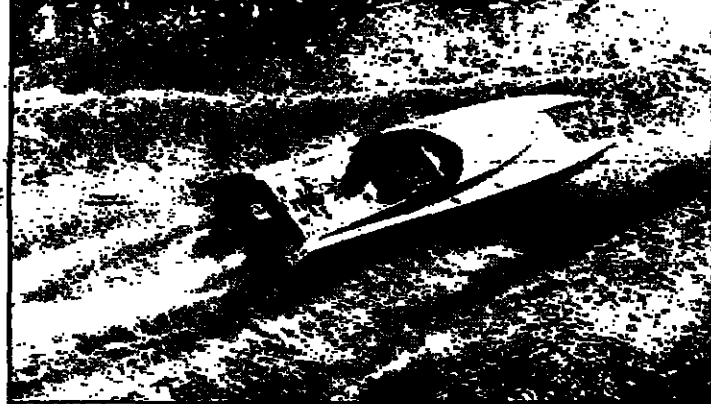
The boat was involved in an accident on the road on the way to the start area, and throttleman Fernando, a passenger in the car towing the boat, was taken to hospital where he received six stitches in his forehead. He was released from hospital after a few hours. The damage to the boat and engines is thought to be considerable, and the dismayed driver learned the news only minutes before the start of the race. He joined Khaled Al Khaled as throttleman, but even this attempt to race was quickly thwarted.

The Kuwait powerboat racers now have to take stock of the situation. They took huge risks in staying on to race in Dubai, as their boats are due in Jordan very soon. Now, three of the drivers have engine problems to fix, and one is without a boat. Time is very short indeed.

The Dubians who have raced in Kuwait were no more fortunate. Abdullah Al Sha'ali got lost, and finished sixth overall, and in their group, Khaled Bakhit was unable to race, as a water skiing injury has necessitated surgery and he is currently in Czechoslovakia for treatment. Instead his boat was piloted by his brother Hamid, but he failed to finish the race. Boat number 10, driven by Salem Juma came, appropriately, tenth. This boat has raced twice in Kuwait without finishing.

Of the sixty-five boats who set out, leaving the water in strips of foam, only half that number completed the race. The course covered a triangle, which had to be driven three times, making a total nautical mileage of about 70nm.

The race started at 11 am and the first boat came home after one hour and fifteen minutes.



Al Ansari: stopped by engine trouble

Barnes sets world best in shotput

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 21. (Reuters): American Randy Barnes, who won the silver medal in the shotput last year at the Seoul Olympics, set a world indoor best in the event — and he did not disappoint.

The 22-year-old Barnes, on his final attempt, came through with a toss of 22.66 metres to highlight the 30th annual Los Angeles Invitational athletics meeting at the sports arena.

His throw eclipsed the previous mark of 22.26 metres set by Werner Gunthor of Switzerland in 1987.

"This was a perfect throw," said Barnes, who was bested for Olympic gold by East German Ulf Timmerman on his final attempt.

"I am thriving on my silver medal," he said. "I needed a title and, now that people are expecting a lot from me, I'm putting pressure on myself."

American Olympic stars Jackie Joyner-Kersey and Roger Kingdom also were spotlighted. Joyner-Kersey, who won the heptathlon and long jump gold medals at Seoul, won the

women's 60 yard dash in 6.68 seconds and Kingdom, a two-time gold medalist, beat arch-rival Greg Foster in the 55 metres hurdles with a time of 6.98 seconds.

Foster, the twice world champion who failed to qualify for Seoul because of a broken arm, edged out Kingdom last week in Dallas in their first meeting of the year. Kingdom was stronger at the finish this time, winning by 0.03 second.

"Before the race we don't talk to each other," Kingdom said afterwards. "But after it's all over we get along well. It will be going back and forth the entire season."

In other events, American Emmitt King won the 60 yard dash in 6.15 seconds, Seoul silver medalist Hollis Conway took the high jump in a jumpoff with fellow American Brian Stanton at 2.26 metres, and Steve Scott of the United States won the mile in four minutes 0.80 seconds.

In other women's events, Diane Dixon, a member of the US silver medal-winning relay team at Seoul, won the 440 yard run in 53.64 seconds.

Athletes suspended
SAN JOSE, Calif., Jan. 21. (Reuters): The governing body of US athletics has suspended 12 athletes and coaches who competed in South Africa in defiance of a ban by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF).

The suspensions by the Athletics Congress (TAC) on Wednesday ranged from two to 12 years.

The athletes and coaches are charged with competing in four meetings in South Africa last October despite the IAAF prohibition against its members competing against non-members.

Ivan breaks Melinte's record

OTTAWA, Jan. 21. (AP): Paula Ivan of Romania, a gold medalist at the Seoul Summer Olympics, set a world indoor record in the women's 1,500-metre run last night at the Internationals Indoor Track Meet.

Ivan turned up the pace during the last two laps to finish in four minutes, 6.99 seconds, almost three seconds faster than the old mark of 4:09.96 set by compatriot Dolina Melinte at the Internationals last year.

Melinte finished second this year in 4:20.

There were seven meet records

set during the competition. While Ivan was living up to her performance in Seoul, American Louise Ritter, who won the high-jumping gold medal in Seoul, overcame injuries to win her event.

Knocked
The lanky US jumper was battling a leg injury, but it was an aching tooth that almost knocked her out of the competition.

"I'm just old and worn out," said Ritter, 30.

Ritter phoned ahead before arriving in Ottawa and asked

meet officials to have a dentist standing by.

She also was hobbled by an injury to her left knee after jumping in Arkansas in the United States last week.

Ritter won with a leap of 6 feet (1.8 metres), 4 inches (10 centimetres), well below the world record of 6 feet (1.8 metres), 8 inches (20 centimetres).

The men's master's 1,500 metres, which featured former Olympic marathon champion Frank Shorter, was won by Dave Stewart of Ottawa in a Canadian record 4:05.48.



Cram to run in Super Bowl 10km race

REDONDO BEACH, California, Jan. 21. (AP): Steve Cram of England and Alejandro Cruz of Mexico are among the entries in the 11th annual Redondo Beach Super Bowl 10-kilometre run scheduled for tomorrow.

Cram, world record-holder in the one-mile run at 3:46.32, and Cruz, the Chicago marathon winner, will join more than 15,000 runners in the 10-kilometre race, which begins at 8 am (1500 GMT) tomorrow.

This will be only the second competition in California from Cram — the other being the 1984 Olympic games.

Unknown
Cruz, 20, was virtually unknown until he won the Chicago marathon last fall in two hours, eight minutes, 57 seconds.

Among the women scheduled to run is American Jacqueline Hansen, the 1,500 metres and 5,000 metres gold medalist in the World Veteran Games at Melbourne, Australia last year.

The race will award prizes in 38 separate men's and women's classes. Added to the programme this year is a five-kilometre walk.

Hooper's five for 33 puts W. Indies on top

BRISBANE, Jan. 21. (Reuters): Part-time off-spinner Carl Hooper snapped up his best four figures of five for 33 to put the West Indian cricketers in charge on the second day of their four-day match against Queensland today.

Middle order batsman Hooper showed his versatility to help tilt the balance as Queensland crumbled from 145 for one to 240 all out in their first innings, four wickets tumbling for 11 at one stage.

West Indies, 76 ahead, consolidated in their second innings as acting captain Desmond Haynes and Jeff Dujon shared an unbroken first wicket partnership of 40 by the close, giving the touring team an overall lead of 116.

Queensland, one for no wicket overnight, made a flying start under the influence of an opening stand of 89 between Trevor Bardsby and Jeff Walker.

The pair hammered new ball bowlers Patrick Patterson and Ian Bishop in a partnership containing 12 boundaries, which was broken when Courtney Walsh bowled Walker for 41.

Bardsby (67) and Peter Clifford (35) continued to make West Indies toil by lifting the score to 145 for one midway through the afternoon session.

Paceman Winston Benjamin then bowled Bardsby, starting the

decline which was accelerated when ex-Test batsman Greg Ritchie and three other batsmen went for 11 runs.

Hooper accounted for Clifford and Stuart Law before mopping up the tail, and his figures could have been even better as Ritchie and Test wicketkeeper Ian Healy were both missed off his bowling.

Scoreboard
WEST INDIES first innings 316 (R. Harper 82, G. Logie 67, W. Benjamin 50)

QUEENSLAND first innings (one for wicket overnight)
T. Bardsby b Benjamin 67
J. Walker b Walsh 41
P. Clifford c Haynes b Hooper 35
G. Ritchie c Williams b Walsh 18
S. Law c Benjamin b Hooper 0
P. Cantrell c Williams b Walsh 1
I. Healy c Walsh b Benjamin 15
T. Hobbes b Hooper 10
C. McDermott c Williams 10
b Hooper 26
D. Tazelaar st Williams b Hooper 1
C. Rackemann not out 4
Extras (b-4 lb-8 nb-10) 22
Total 240

Fall of wickets: 1-89 2-145 3-169 4-176 5-188 6-188 7-199 8-223 9-235
Bowling: Patterson 9-2-35-1 (3ab), Bishop 9-1-43-0 (6ab), Benjamin 15-2-42-2 (1ab), Walsh 13-0-44-2, Harper 11-1-31-0, Hooper 14-3-33-5

WEST INDIES second innings
D. Haynes not out 18
J. Dujon not out 17
Extras (lb-1 nb-4) 5
Total (no wicket) 40
Bowling to date: McDermott 3-0-18-0 (1nb), Tazelaar 6-0-13-0 (3ab), Rackemann 4-1-8-0.

Castro and Aceves draw

MONTERIA, Colombia, Jan. 21. (Reuters): Amancio Castro of Colombia and Mauricio Aceves of Mexico drew here last night for the vacant World Boxing Organisation (WBO) lightweight title.

Castro was knocked down in the 12th and last round of the hard-hitting fight. According to WBO rules, a rematch must take place within 60 days.

Castro, a 29-year-old native of Monteria on the Caribbean Coast, dominated Aceves, 27, until the eighth round with good jabs to the Mexican's face.

Former world champion

Miguel "Happy" Lora, commenting the fight from the ringside, was then giving Castro a five to seven points lead.

But Aceves, always on the attack, put the pressure on from the ninth round and multiplied the blows to the Colombian's body who seemed overconfident and lowered his guard.

The twelfth round saw a furious battle between the two punchers and Castro was felled by a right-left series. He immediately got up but seemed to dip into his last energy reserves to withstand the Mexican's assaults.

SPORTS

KRISHNAN BOWS OUT OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Becker brushes aside Pridham

MELBOURNE, Jan 21. (Reuters): Third seed Boris Becker destroyed Canada's Chris Pridham in three sets of howitzer tennis in the third round of the Australian Open today.

The twice Wimbledon champion won 6-0 6-1 6-2 in just 70 minutes, serving 18 aces and losing only one point on his first serve.

"I cannot remember finishing a match so fast. I feel like Steffi Graf," said Becker. World number one Graf, also from West Germany, has lost just four games in three rounds in the women's competition here.

Becker's victory was as powerful as Miloslav Mecir's over Jason Stoltenberg of Australia was graceful.

Eyes
The number nine seed from Czechoslovakia won 6-2 6-1 6-3 and now has his eyes on Christo van Rensburg of South Africa in the fourth round.

A Becker-Mecir semifinal is looking increasingly likely but first the West German must overcome Jonas Svensson of Sweden. Svensson beat Australia's Wally Masur 4-6 6-2 6-3 6-3.

Catarina Lindqvist lost the first set 6-0 and squandered six match points before nailing fourth seed Pam Shriver in a three-set thriller.

Lindqvist, a finalist last week in the New South Wales Open,



Shriver reacts after losing to Lindqvist. (Reuters wirephoto)

won 0-6 6-4 8-6 victory to guarantee an unseeded player makes the women's semifinals from section of the draw.

A relaxed Martina Navratilova eased through 6-2 6-2 against Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia to set up an intriguing

match with Hana Mandlikova, whose recovery from six months out with injury continued with a 3-6 6-3 9-7 defeat of Manon Bollegraf of the Netherlands.

"I'm very pleased with my play. I'm definitely not the centre

of attention which is fine by me. I'm number two and enjoying it," Navratilova said later.

Mandlikova showed great spirit in recovering from one-set down for the third match running, but her recovery was not without controversy.

She was docked a penalty point for hitting the ball at a line judge after receiving what she felt was a bad call.

India's Ramesh Krishnan came crashing back to earth after the euphoria of his win over world number one Mats Wilander when Leonardo Lavalle of Mexico ousted him 7-5 6-4 3-6 6-3.

Lavalle, coached by Becker's old mentor Gunter Bosch, now plays 17-year-old Yugoslav qualifier Goran Ivanisevic in the last 16.

Ivanisevic, who beat Dutchman Tom Nijssen 6-4 6-4 6-0, had claimed only three Grand Prix victories before this tournament which he sees as the perfect showcase for his undoubted serve-volley talent.

"I was sure I was going to win today. I'm now aiming for the top 100 and hope to make the top 50 as soon as possible," said Ivanisevic.

Lindqvist, trained by former British player John Lloyd, was delighted by her win.

"It's the third time I've played her in the Australian Open and I've won all three times.

"I've never seen her play as well as she did in the first set but when I got my first break in the second set my game really picked up," she said.

Reflecting on her wasted match points, Lindqvist said: "I just wanted her to miss one of her approach shots to make it easy for me."

A bitterly disappointed Shriver was still able to raise a smile when asked what her friend and newly-installed US President George Bush would have thought about the match.

Agree
"George would have said I should have stayed home and gone to the inauguration and I would agree with him," she said.

"When I walked off court I was as disappointed as I've been in a while."

Meanwhile, John McEnroe and Pat Cash each were fined \$500 for outbursts in matches yesterday at the Australian Open, the Men's Tennis Council said today.

McEnroe was fined for verbal abuse of a linesman during his 6-2, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3 second-round victory over Australian Brod Dyke.

Cash, of Australia, was penalised for an audible obscenity during his 6-3, 6-3, 6-7 (1-7), 4-6, 6-3 win over American Richey Renberg.

The fines were announced by Grand Prix supervisor Bill Gilmore.



Swedish world rally champion Bjorn Waldegard (left) looks on while Finnish double world rally champion Juha Kankkunen (centre) signs an autograph prior to the start of the W.German stage of the Monte Carlo Rally in Bad Homburg yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Scotland blast Wales in Five Nations opener

EDINBURGH, Jan 21. (Reuters): Halfbacks Gary Armstrong and Craig Chalmers guided Scotland to a thoroughly deserved 27-7 victory over Wales in their opening Five Nations Rugby Union Championship match today.

Each player scored a try and Chalmers, making his international debut, dropped a goal late in the first half for good measure to give the Scots a formidable 19-0 lead at halftime.

Wales, co-champions with France last year, made a spirited revival in the second half and wing Mike Hall was rewarded with a try after a swerving run down the right-hand touchline.

Welsh flyhalf Bledwyn Bowen, who took over the goal-kicking duties after captain Paul Thorburn had missed three kicks at goal, added a penalty to cut the margin to 12 points.

However, the Scots fought back strongly and were rewarded with a try to Chalmers in injury time after a incisive run by full-

back Peter Dods. Scotland made a remarkable start to the match with Dods, playing instead of the injured Gavin Hastings, kicking two early penalties.

Armstrong, who had a magnificent match, scored in the 22nd minute when an enterprising back move appeared to have foundered, and number eight Derek White added a second try eight minutes before the interval.

A conversion to Dods and Chalmers' dropped goal completed the first half scoring.

The basis of Scotland's victory was the disciplined play of their forward pack with their fiery loose trio, led by captain Finlay Calder, invariably first to the breakdown.

Chalmers chose his attacking options cleverly and his tactical kicking was always well judged.

New Zealand's Sean Lineen, at inside centre, also had a successful international debut, running strongly and tackling effectively.

Yang thrashes Kusuma

TOKYO, Jan 21. (AP): Yang Yang of China will meet Foo Kok Keong of Malaysia in the men's singles final tomorrow, while the women's final of the Japan Open badminton championship will be an all-Chinese affair.

The final slots were decided today, as second seed Yang downed Alan B. Kusuma of Indonesia 15-8, 15-10 and Foo beat China's Liu Jun 15-10, 15-8 in the semifinal action at the No. 2 Yoyogi gymnasium.

Yang, seeking his second tournament victory, jumped to a 6-0 lead in the first game before it turned into an exchange of points.

Wrapped
In the second game, Yang, trailing 5-8, won nine points in a row for 14-8 and wrapped up the game with the jump shot which Kusuma failed to return.

"I am confident of beating Foo in the finals. I met him four or five times before, and I won all of them," Yang said.

In the women's semifinals, top-seeded Li Lingwei of China

lost the first game but came back to post a 2-1, 11-6, 11-7 victory over compatriot Tang Jiahong.

China's Huang Hua beat South Korea's Olympic gold medalist Hwang Hye-Young 9-12, 11-8, 11-8.

"I lost the match because my opponent was younger and she had more stamina. She played nicely at the net," said Hwang.

"I was stunned ... when I lost the first game, but I had the confidence to beat her," Huang said.

In the men's doubles semifinals, South Korea's Park Joo-Bong and Lee Song-Bok beat the top-seeded Malaysian brother team of Razif and Jaran Sidek 15-2, 15-6.

The Swedish pair of Jan-Erik Antonsson and Paer-Gunnar Jonsson downed Denmark's Henrik Sværre and Jan Paulsen 10-15, 15-3, 15-7.

Park and Lee meet Antonsson and Jonsson in the final match tomorrow.

Boxing promoter
NEW YORK, Jan 21. (AP): Boxing promoter Don King's office was firebombed Thursday night blowing off the glass doors and starting a small fire, police said.

King said there was no one in the building when the bombing occurred.

Phoenix Open
SCOTTSDALE, Ariz., Jan 21. (Reuters): Americans Mark McCumber and Bill Glasson shared the lead on Friday halfway through the \$700,000 Phoenix Open.

Terry Alderman
SYDNEY, Jan 21. (Reuters): Test bowler Terry Alderman took four Tasmanian wickets in the Sheffield Shield match in Perth today to move within one scalp of equalling Dennis Lillee's Western Australia record for first-class dismissals. Lillee took 351 wickets in 76 matches for his state side.

NBA games
NEW YORK, Jan 21. (Reuters): Results of National Basketball Association (NBA) games played yesterday.

Boston 117 Philadelphia 109
Detroit 132 Indiana 99
Utah 98 Milwaukee 94
Golden State 121 Houston 114
LA Lakers 115 Dallas 99

Results of the tournament:
N/S
1. Rita Camacchi & Ahmed Hekky
2. Nabil Akel & Peter Harris
3. D.K. Jaggi & J. Gajjar
E/F
1. Rima & Faoud Farah
2. E.T. Simon & S.D. Parikh
3. Salman Ali & George Massoud

English Division Three
Aldershot 1 Bristol 3
Blackpool 1 Preston 0
Barnsley 1 Reading 1
Bristol 0 Chester 1
Fulham 1 Mansfield 1
Huddersfield 1 Notts County 3
Northampton 1 Bury 3
Port Vale 4 Gillingham 2
Sheff Wed 2 Swindon 1
Swansea 2 Southend 1
Wigan 1 Brentford 1
Wolves 1 Chesterfield 0

English Division Four
Crew 2 Leyton O 1
Doncaster 3 Rotherham 0
Grimsby 4 Cambridge 0
Hartlepool 3 Lincoln 2
Hereford 1 Scunthorpe 2
Peterborough 1 Carlisle 4
Rochdale 1 Burnley 1
Tranmere 1 Scarborough 1
Wrexham 3 Exeter 0
York 2 Colchester 0

Scottish Premier Division
Dundee U 0 Hearts 0
Hibernian 1 Celtic 3
Motherwell 0 Aberdeen 2
Rangers 3 Dundie 1
St Mirren 1 Hamilton 0

Scottish Division One
Airdrie 0 Dunfermline 2
Clydebank 1 Meadowbank 2
Clydebank 1 Forfar 1
Queen of S 0 Ayr 2
Raith 1 Morton 0
St Johnstone 2 Falkirk 1

Scottish Division Two
Arbroath 0 Albion 3
Berwick 1 Alloa 1
Cowdenbeath 2 Queen's Park 2
Montrose 0 E Skirling 1
Stenhousemuir 1 East Fife 1
Stirling 1 Dumbarton 1
Stranraer 0 Brechin 1

English Division One
Sheff Wed 1
Wimbledon 1
Southampton 0
Liverpool 2 Everton 0
Luton 1 Tottenham 2
Middlesbrough 2 Charlton 2
Newcastle 0 Aston Villa 0
Notts Forest 4 Derby 1
QPR 0 Manchester 3
West Ham 1 Middlesbrough 1
Playing Sunday: Millwall v Norwich

English Division Two
Barnsley 4 Oldham 3

Moves made to outlaw any S. Africa decision

LONDON, Jan 21. (Reuters): Moves were made today to outlaw any decision by cricket's world governing body next week which would ban players who in future have sporting links with South Africa.

The International Cricket Conference (ICC) met at Lord's on Monday and Tuesday to debate four resolutions — one seeking a 10-year test ban and another a four-year suspension — aimed at resolving the modern game's most vexed question.

However, a vote may have to be postponed following the Freedom in Sport Organisation being granted a summons under Section 21 of the Theft Act 1968

against ICC secretary, Colonel John Stephenson.

The application, granted at a London magistrates court, was made by Freedom in Sport chairman Norris McWhirter.

Loss
The summons read: "That you on or before November 28, 1988, with intent to cause loss to others, did make unwarranted demands on behalf of the International Cricket Conference at Lord's contrary to Section 21 (1) of the Theft Act 1968."

Effectively, the ICC are being accused of restraint of trade. An average of 70 English county cricketers have been playing or coaching in the racially-

divided republic during their close season, and it is their selection for Tests and tours which has caused the controversy leading to the ICC meeting.

McWhirter, backed by Conservative Member of Parliament John Carlisle among others, said: "Our charter requires us to defend an individual's right to pursue the trade or profession of his choice without harassment. Any civil liberties worth its salt had a responsibility to take this up."

Carlisle added: "In view of the criminal proceedings now hanging over the ICC meeting, I would urge them to postpone any decision until at least their July

meeting and hopefully abandon all thoughts of passing any resolutions which would affect either England or South African players playing cricket in their respective countries."

Position
Colonel Stephenson said: "I can confirm we have received a summons and it is now under consideration. I don't know when I will be in a position to say any more."

England have solidly supported an individual's right to play or coach in South Africa for the last 10 years, but now face mounting pressure from black Test-playing countries — led by West Indies — who seek a Test ban.

Celtic Shot beaten again

LONDON, Jan 21. (Reuters): Champion hurdler Celtic Shot lost for the third time in four races this season today when he was beaten two lengths by 11-1 chance Vicario Di Bray.

But experts at the northern track of Haydock Park rated it a satisfactory performance and trimmed the horse's odds from 10-1 to 8-1 for this year's Champion hurdle at Cheltenham in March.

Celtic Shot, who started today at 2-1, was giving the winner six pounds (2.75 kg), but in the champion the pair will meet on level terms.

Vicario Di Bray, trained by Jonjo O'Neill and ridden by Mark Dwyer, produced the best performance of his short career.

Merson's equaliser spares Arsenal's blushes

LONDON, Jan 21. (Reuters): Paul Merson spared Arsenal's blushes with a 74th minute equaliser to earn the English First Division leaders a 1-1 draw with struggling Sheffield Wednesday yesterday.

Arsenal looked like paying a heavy price for a crop of missed chances when Iure Varadi scored from Wednesday's first threatening attack on the hour.

But Merson stretched the Gunners' lead over second-placed Norwich, who meet Millwall in a televised match tomorrow, to six points with his 10th goal in 15 matches.

Pleased
While Norwich head the chasing pack, Arsenal would not have been pleased to learn that as they were scoring chances at High-bury, defending champions Liverpool were cruising to a 2-0 win over Southampton.

John Aldridge and Ian Rush scored the goals in a four-minute spell in the second half and they now trail Arsenal by nine points.

Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough, on his best behaviour after his televised attack on supporters who invaded the club's pitch after Forest's League Cup win over Queen's Park Rangers on Wednesday, was given an emotional show of support by fans before the home match against Aston Villa.

Thousands of fans in the main stand at the city ground stood and clapped their hands above their heads as Clough, who is to

be questioned by police about his actions, walked to the touchline dugout.

The Forest players also showed their support for Clough with a rousing display. The highlight of their 4-0 win — their seventh in succession — was an 87th minute goal by full back Brian Laws, his first for the club.

Coventry maintained their challenge for the title with a 2-1 home win over Wimbledon and Manchester United, another of Arsenal's pursuers, came from behind to score their first win over West Ham at Upton Park for 21 years.

Coventry skipper Brian Kilcline spared himself embarrassment by scoring from the rebound after Hans Segers had saved his first half penalty.

John Scales equalised within two minutes but in-form David Speedie ensured three points for Coventry with his 13th goal of the season in the 66th minute.

West Ham, excelling in Cup competitions but desperate for points in the League, looked like extending their unbeaten run to five matches when Ireland international Liam Brady, who missed a penalty in the League Cup win over Aston Villa on Wednesday, gave them the lead from the spot in the 20th minute.

But United, brimming over with youthful talent, stormed back to win 3-1 with goals by Gordon Strachan and Brian McClair and an own goal by Alvin Martin.

Queen's Park Rangers,



John Aldridge

another London side in trouble, had the chance to end a run of five games without a win when they were awarded a 77th minute penalty in the home match against Derby.

Charlton eased the pressure on themselves near the foot of the table and added to bottom club Newcastle's woes by beating them 2-0 with two strikes by Robert Lee.

Frank Pingel, Newcastle's new

SHOWJUMPING

UAE riders score two more wins

DUBAI: With the international stars at last getting into a winning stride at the Dubai Horse Show, the UAE leapt back into the limelight yesterday with two more victories to take its total to ten as the four-day event headed for a big finish.

In the high-speed Khaleej Times knockout competition, with two riders competing flat out against each other, the host country had three out of four semifinals at the Metropolitan Hotel showround.

Buoyant
The odd man out was brilliant Kuwait Army officer Lieut Rakad Al Daphire, buoyant after three individual victories in the Middle East's biggest showjumping event and again looking in splendid form on Liewic.

But a rare mistake by the pair going into the last sequence of fences allowed Dubai's Jamal Tarish and Oliver to cruise into the final, where they were narrowly beaten by Umm Al Qiwain's Jacqui Aldred on Azarga.

The premier event of the show, the Damsel Cup, had all the leading competitors battling for the show's most prestigious trophy late last night, with the UAE, Kuwait and so far unsuccessful Bahrain riders attempting to outshine their illustrious European rivals.

Disappear
Sharjah's Fahad Ibrahim saw his hopes of a third triumph disappear in yesterday's two-horse jump-off for the Arriyadh Wa Shabab Junior Grand Prix when he paid the price for a little too much haste on Artishok and had one fence down in a time of 42.37 seconds.

That gave Dubai's Annisa Bujasin the chance to take a more cautious route around the course on Tia Maria, and together they produced a winning clear round in 46.7 seconds. There was one moment of anxiety in the competition when Jennifer Houston on Dhabi crashed through the wall, with both rider and horse falling to the ground. But neither was hurt.

After being overshadowed by the Gulf's leading riders for the first two days of the show, the quartet of international stars from Europe accounted for two titles on Friday night.

Combined
Ireland's Paul Darragh, West Germany's Axel Wockner and Britain's Joe Turi and Geoff Billington combined to win the seven-team Gandour Cup, a Nations Cup-style event.

Then Darragh proved he is just as steady behind the wheel as he is in the saddle when he won the entertaining Ride and Drive Stakes, going clear over seven fences on Khan and then negotiating his way through seven narrow gates in a Range Rover.

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be questioned by police about his actions, walked to the touchline dugout.

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Frank Pingel, Newcastle's new

signing from Danish club Aarhus, had a miserable start to his League career. He was carried off after just two minutes following a clash of heads with Colin Pates.

Sergei Betschka, the first Soviet player to join an English League club, had a much happier debut for Second Division Ipswich. He scored the first of five second half goals as his new team romped to a 3-1 win over Stoke.

In Scotland, Hearts did Rangers a good turn by holding Dundee United to a goalless draw in the Premier League.

Rangers, comfortable 3-1 winners over Dundee, now lead the table with 37 points, two ahead of United.

Scotland international Ally McCoist celebrated his return to the Rangers side after an absence of three months with a hamstring injury by scoring the third goal. The leaders' other marksmen were Ian Ferguson and central defender Terry Butcher.

Glasgow Celtic kept alive their hopes of retaining the title with a 3-1 win at Hibernian and Dutchman Wilhelm van der Ark scored on his debut for Aberdeen who beat Motherwell 2-0.

Results
English Division One
Sheff Wed 1
Wimbledon 1
Southampton 0
Liverpool 2
Luton 1
Middlesbrough 2
Newcastle 0
Notts Forest 4
QPR 0
West Ham 1
Playing Sunday: Millwall v Norwich

English Division Two
Barnsley 4
Oldham 3

English Division Three
Aldershot 1
Blackpool 1
Barnsley 1
Bristol 0
Bristol City 1
Bristol Rovers 1
Bristol Strikers 1
Bristol W 1
Bristol Y 1
Bristol Z 1
Bristol AA 1
Bristol AB 1
Bristol AC 1
Bristol AD 1
Bristol AE 1
Bristol AF 1
Bristol AG 1
Bristol AH 1
Bristol AI 1
Bristol AJ 1
Bristol AK 1
Bristol AL 1
Bristol AM 1
Bristol AN 1
Bristol AO 1
Bristol AP 1
Bristol AQ 1
Bristol AR 1
Bristol AS 1
Bristol AT 1
Bristol AU 1
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Bristol CB 1
Bristol CC 1
Bristol CD 1
Bristol CE 1
Bristol CF 1
Bristol CG 1
Bristol CH 1
Bristol CI 1
Bristol CJ 1
Bristol CK 1
Bristol CL 1
Bristol CM 1
Bristol CN 1
Bristol CO 1
Bristol CP 1
Bristol CQ 1
Bristol CR 1
Bristol CS 1
Bristol CT 1
Bristol CU 1
Bristol CV 1
Bristol CW 1
Bristol CX 1
Bristol CY 1
Bristol CZ 1
Bristol DA 1
Bristol DB 1
Bristol DC 1
Bristol DD 1
Bristol DE 1
Bristol DF 1
Bristol DG 1
Bristol DH 1
Bristol DI 1
Bristol DJ 1
Bristol DK 1
Bristol DL 1
Bristol DM 1
Bristol DN 1
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Bristol DP 1
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Bristol DX 1
Bristol DY 1
Bristol DZ 1
Bristol EA 1
Bristol EB 1
Bristol EC 1
Bristol ED 1
Bristol EE 1
Bristol EF 1
Bristol EG 1
Bristol EH 1
Bristol EI 1
Bristol EJ 1
Bristol EK 1
Bristol EL 1
Bristol EM 1
Bristol EN 1
Bristol EO 1
Bristol EP 1
Bristol EQ 1
Bristol ER 1
Bristol ES 1
Bristol ET 1
Bristol EU 1
Bristol EV 1
Bristol EW 1
Bristol EX 1
Bristol EY 1
Bristol EZ 1
Bristol FA 1
Bristol FB 1
Bristol FC 1
Bristol FD 1
Bristol FE 1
Bristol FF 1
Bristol FG 1
Bristol FH 1
Bristol FI 1
Bristol FJ 1
Bristol FK 1
Bristol FL 1
Bristol FM 1
Bristol FN 1
Bristol FO 1
Bristol FP 1
Bristol FQ 1
Bristol FR 1
Bristol FS 1
Bristol FT 1
Bristol FU 1
Bristol FV 1
Bristol FW 1
Bristol FX 1
Bristol FY 1
Bristol FZ 1
Bristol GA 1
Bristol GB 1
Bristol GC 1
Bristol GD 1
Bristol GE 1
Bristol GF 1
Bristol GH 1
Bristol GI 1
Bristol GJ 1
Bristol GK 1
Bristol GL 1
Bristol GM 1
Bristol GN 1
Bristol GO 1
Bristol GP 1
Bristol GQ 1
Bristol GR 1
Bristol GS 1
Bristol GT 1
Bristol GU 1
Bristol GV 1
Bristol GW 1
Bristol GX 1
Bristol GY 1
Bristol GZ 1
Bristol HA 1
Bristol HB 1
Bristol HC 1
Bristol HD 1
Bristol HE